

Moroccan prime minister visits Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Moroccan Prime Minister Azzeddine Laraki arrived in Egypt Saturday at the head of the first high-level mission to visit Cairo since the two countries restored ties last year. Egyptian officials said Laraki's talks would focus on boosting trade ties and promoting better relations in industry, energy, culture and tourism after the nine-year break. Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki, greeting Laraki at Cairo airport, described his four-day visit as "historic." Laraki told reporters his talks would "reflect the spirit of brotherhood and friendship existing between the two nations." He said he was carrying a message from King Hassan II to President Hosni Mubarak. The two leaders met in Morocco last February and agreed to reactivate dormant agreements between the two countries.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
ج. ان. تاييز يومية تنبسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية. الراي.

Moscow hints at end to pullout

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union hinted Saturday it might halt its withdrawal from Afghanistan if neighbouring Pakistan failed to stop aiding Afghan rebels. Although a Foreign Ministry statement did not mention the United States, it also appeared aimed at U.S. aid channelled through Pakistan. The Soviet Union would "draw pertinent conclusions with respect to the timetable of the troop withdrawal and take concrete steps called for by the illicit actions of Islamabad," the ministry said in a statement carried by the official TASS news agency. The statement came one day before U.S. President Ronald Reagan was due to arrive in Moscow for his fourth summit with Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev. The United States has been supplying the Afghan Mujahedeen with an estimated \$500 million annually in arms and military supplies channelled through Pakistan. (see related story on page 8).

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Nasouh Majali, Durra exchange posts

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Saturday appointed Nasouh Majali as secretary-general of the Ministry of Information and named Munir Durra, the incumbent secretary-general of information, to replace Majali as director-general of the Jordan Television and Radio Corporation. In a regular session held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, the Cabinet also discussed allowance regulations for civil servants and set up a ministerial panel to further study proposals on the regulations.

APC, East German firms sign accord

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Potash Company (APC) and several potash marketing firms in East Germany Saturday signed an agreement for mutual cooperation in marketing-related issues. A delegation representing East German potash companies is currently visiting the Kingdom and has already visited the APC in the Jordan Valley.

Arafat: Syria behind shelling

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat accused Syrian President Hafez Al Assad of ordering shelling of two Palestinian camps in Beirut before Syrian troops moved into the city's southern suburbs. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), told Arab journalists here that Syrian positions shelled Sabra and Shatila Thursday, the day before Syrian troops moved into Beirut's southern suburbs. "The shelling (of the camps) came from Syrian positions and I pose this question to President Hafez Al Assad: 'Can anyone aim his artillery without the agreement of Assad?' "It was agreed in my meeting with Assad (last month in Damascus) that we would turn a new page, but now we see attacks on Sabra and Shatila just as Israel attacks the Palestinian camps," he added.

Gouled in UAE

ABU DHABI (R) — President Hassan Gouled of Djibouti arrived in the United Arab Emirates Saturday for a three-day official visit ahead of next month's Arab summit. UAE President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan welcomed him and officials said they would discuss Gulf and Arab issues.

Conference calls for peace in Gulf

BAGHDAD (R) — A peace conference meeting in Baghdad appealed Friday to the U.S. and Soviet leaders for immediate action to halt the Iran-Iraq war. A statement at the end of the three-day conference urged President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev to "seriously and immediately act to end the war according to U.N. Security Council Resolution 598."

Aid group quits Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — An aid group said Saturday it evacuated its international staff from South Lebanon after one of its doctors disappeared there. "For security reasons we have evacuated our teams in the south," Norway, a Norwegian non-governmental organisation, said in a statement. It did not say how many workers were involved. Jan Coors, 32, a Belgian doctor working for Norway, vanished after leaving the Palestinian refugee camp of Rashidiyeh near the southern port of Tyre a week ago.

Rockets kill 4 in Kabul

ISLAMABAD (AP) — A rocket attack by guerrillas killed three women and one child in the Afghan capital, Radio Kabul reported Saturday. Ten rockets and projectiles hit the western part of Kabul Friday afternoon, said the Dari-language newscast monitored in Islamabad. The Mujahedeen have been pounding Kabul nightly since Soviet troops started withdrawing from Afghanistan May 15.

Peace Now stages rally through W. Bank Protesters attack army HQ in Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip observed a massive general strike Saturday and clashed with Israeli soldiers after attacking the headquarters of the Israeli army in the occupied strip.

In the occupied West Bank, about 2,000 Israeli members of the Peace Now movement staged their first demonstration in the Israeli-occupied territories since the Palestinian uprising began last December. The Gaza City was paralysed by the general strike. Groups of Palestinians were seen throwing stones at cars and setting tyres ablaze, the AP said. In the Jabalya refugee camp, a firebomb was thrown at an army patrol, an Arab reporter said. He said soldiers entered and searched homes, confiscating identity cards of some 25 residents. Several Palestinians were also ordered to park their vehicles in front of the military administration building in the camp to prevent stone-throwing attacks, he said.

Syrian soldiers complete thrust into southern Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — More than 4,000 Syrian soldiers completely completed the second stage of their thrust into Beirut's southern suburbs Saturday to end militia battles and four years of lawlessness and anarchy. There were no reports that even a single shot was fired on the second day of the Syrian deployment, which concentrated around strongholds of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God). "The security plan is going well," said a Syrian army major, who asked to be identified as Abu Nidal, as he watched the soldiers move in. "We have stopped the fighting. We will end armed appearances and make sure all military offices close down. Weapons will be confiscated from everyone and we will arrest anyone who violates this."

SLA man killed in ambush; Israeli forces mount search

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (Agencies) — Israeli troops launched a major search in their South Lebanon "security zone" Saturday after a pro-Israeli militiaman was killed in a clash with resistance fighters, sources quoted by the AP and Reuters said. They said the militiaman died when a South Lebanon Army (SLA) patrol exchanged machinegun and rocket fire with several commandos near Tal Al Nahas, 600 metres from the Israeli border.

About 60 Israeli soldiers, backed by two helicopter gunships, were sent in to hunt for the commandos in Tal Al Nahas and surrounding villages the sources told Reuters. An Israeli military source quoted by the AP said the SLA militiaman was killed near the village of Qlaiaa, about five kilometres north of the Israeli border.

The clash was in Israel's self-designated "security zone," where the Israelis and SLA face frequent resistance attacks. Israel carved out the 10-to-15 kilometre zone after withdrawing the bulk of its troops from Lebanon in June 1985 following a three-year occupation.

An official Israeli military spokesman said SLA militiamen were searching South Lebanon Saturday but declined to confirm Israeli forces had entered the area on a major search.

"Fire from a light weapon was opened from an ambush on an SLA patrol moving south-west of the village of Kleia in the security zone, near the Litani river," the spokesman said.

"One SLA man was killed in the shooting. SLA forces are searching the area for the

Bank rally condemned the Israeli army for forbidding the group to meet local Palestinians and restricting them to an isolated field outside a military camp near the city of Nablus.

Palestinians, surprised by the demonstrators' convoy, waved and gave the V-for-victory signal. The demonstrators later returned to Israel in what organisers said was an illustration of the possibility of Israeli retreat from the occupied territories.

The army said restrictions on the demonstrators' movements were applied for fear of provoking either Palestinians or Jewish settlers into a clash. The high court rejected a Peace Now appeal against the curbs.

"This demonstration is taking place despite efforts by the authorities to prevent it from taking place," a Peace Now leader, Tzali Reshef, told the crowd.

"They are trying to prevent us from reaching places that have been victims of settler provocation."

Speakers at the peaceful West (Continued on page 5)



WINNERS HONOURED: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday receives a trophy for winning the second place in the Tal Al Rumman Hill Climb Friday. The ceremony was held at the Royal Automobile Club. His Royal Highness Prince Faisal received His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah's trophy for winning the third



place in the race. The King was also awarded two trophies for his role in rallying since 1956. Amir Bubeisi, who won the first place in the race Friday, also received his trophy. Waleed Asfour, president of the club, expressed his gratitude for the King's patronage of and participation in the club's activities (Petra photos)

Soviet ratification of INF treaty puts finishing touch to summit stage



Ronald Reagan



Mikhail Gorbachev

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet Union's top parliamentary body Saturday ratified the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty with the United States, clearing the way for a showpiece ceremony at next week's Moscow summit. Ratification came at a special session of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet which was held within hours of news from Washington that the Senate had approved the treaty after days of agonising debate. In Helsinki, U.S. President Ronald Reagan met his top advisers Saturday to prepare for the Moscow summit and said he was ready to work with the Soviet Union to promote respect for human rights and better East-West ties.

Kuwait urges superpowers to address Palestinian problem

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, urged the superpowers on the eve of their Moscow summit to help to resolve the Palestinian problem.

Sheikh Jaber, chairman of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), wrote to President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev saying he hoped their successes on nuclear disarmament and Afghanistan would be followed by others, the Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) reported.

"We know that your meeting will include human rights and regional conflicts," it quoted the emir's letter as saying. "This is a confirmation of human dignity and peace, and under this title the current Palestinian uprising comes into your deliberations."

Sheikh Jaber said the OIC hoped the Moscow summit "will help the Israeli entity listen to the voice of this new will and dissuade its leaders from following a path counter to history's ever-changing movement."

Khomeini wants Iran to fight on despite defeats

NICOSIA (AP) — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini declared Saturday that the war against Iraq would be decided on the battlefield and not the negotiating table, despite Iran's admission that it has suffered military defeats in recent weeks.

"The combatants must continue their fight by defending on their faith in God and their weapons," he said in a statement read to the opening session of Iran's new Majlis, or parliament, by his son Ahmad, increasingly emerging as a key political figure.

"The fate of the war will be decided on the war fronts, not through negotiations," Khomeini said in his statement broadcast by Tehran Radio and monitored in Nicosia.

"Victory will be ours and this is what we believe wholeheartedly," he said, indicating Iran plans to retaliate against its Gulf war foe.

Tehran Radio earlier reported that President Ali Khamenei admitted during a Tehran prayer session Friday that the Iraqis had defeated Iran's army in recent weeks.

He gave no details. But he was clearly referring to Iraq's recapture of the Fao Peninsula in southern Iraq April 18 and an Iranian bridgehead east of the port city of Basra earlier this week (see page 5).

Khamenei's unexpectedly blunt admission undermined the scale of the setbacks for Iran in the 7½-year-old war.

The Iraqi territory it had seized at appalling cost in two bloody offensives represented the main gains Iran has made in the conflict.

Khamenei told worshippers at Tehran University that "war has a two-sided aspect." He said in a sermon broadcast by the radio: "You will not find, in any of the wars in the world which last a long time, one side always winning and the other always losing. If one side constantly wins and the other constantly loses, the war will not last. It will be over," he said.

Khamenei said that Iraq "has had one or two victories and successes. These successes of the enemy are not beyond our expectation." He did not elaborate.

Khayyat underlines importance of joint Christian-Muslim efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat said Saturday that Christians and Muslims form a united Jordanian family and work together for the liberation of occupied Arab territory and holy places.

Christians and Muslims working in joint delegations, continue to tour the world explaining the Arab cause in Palestine and exposing Israel's practices and human rights violations in the occupied territories and Israel's expansionist ambitions in the Arab World, the minister said at a meeting with a visiting delegation representing the World Council of Churches.

In addition, he said, Christians and Muslims have been holding regular conferences in the Kingdom with the aim of promoting bilateral ties of brotherhood and affection and bolstering the cause of peace.

Khayyat briefed the visiting delegation on his ministry's duties and responsibilities on both banks of the Jordan River and its endeavours to safeguard the holy places and the Islamic heritage like the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem and Al Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron.

He said the Jordanian government attaches great importance to all matters related to Christian holy places in the Kingdom.

The minister refuted claims of Jewish rights in Arab lands and spoke about Israel's expansionist designs and its threats to the region's security and stability.

The ongoing Palestinian uprising, he said, came about as a result of the long years of oppression and Israel's inhuman practices.

The head of the visiting delegation replied with a speech underlining the importance of cooperation among nations for establishing peace and justice in the Middle East.

He said that the Christian World has deplored Israel's practices against the Palestinian people.

Socialists appear poised to sweep French elections

PARIS (AP) — President Francois Mitterrand's Socialists appear poised for a landslide sweep back to power in legislative elections beginning next week, a crushing victory that could bury his hopes to attract centrists.

The two rounds of voting June 5 and 12 are to elect a new, 577-seat National Assembly for five years.

Mitterrand dissolved the conservative-controlled assembly May 14, six days after he was reelected to a second seven-year term.

Various polls predict the Socialists will win 42 per cent to 44 per cent of the vote, compared with 38 per cent to 39 per cent for the traditional rightist parties — the conservative Rally for the Republic (RPR) and the centrist Union for French Democracy (UDF). That would translate into about 400 seats for the Socialists, far above the 289 needed for a majority.

Mitterrand, 71, who campaigned for reelection on the theme of uniting all of the French, has said he wants his new government to go beyond the Socialist Party to include centrists, who traditionally have been included on the right side of the political spectrum.

He said his meeting with Qadhafi could be at an OAU summit or in the context of the OAU's so-called ad hoc committee on the dispute, which is chaired by President Omar Bongo of Gabon.

Bongo or the OAU chairman, Malian President Moussa Traore, could also be present at the meeting, he added.



Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan

Aga Khan urges superpower help to rebuild Afghanistan

KABUL (R) — The United Nations coordinator for aid to the five million Afghan refugees came briefly to Kabul Saturday and left with an appeal to the superpower leaders to help rebuild the country devastated by a decade of war.

Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, U.N. special coordinator for humanitarian and economic assistance relating to Afghanistan, visited the country for some eight hours and had brief talks with President Najibullah, Prime Minister-elect Mohammad Hassan Sharq and the deputy foreign minister.

He then flew to Islamabad, where according to Pakistani figures 3.2 million Afghans are living in refugee camps, and will go on to Iran, home to two million more.

Flanked by representatives of the refugee effort, he told reporters at the airport before leaving: "The role of the United Nations is to encourage rehabilitation of the victims of the conflict can be the glue, the cement for peace as the

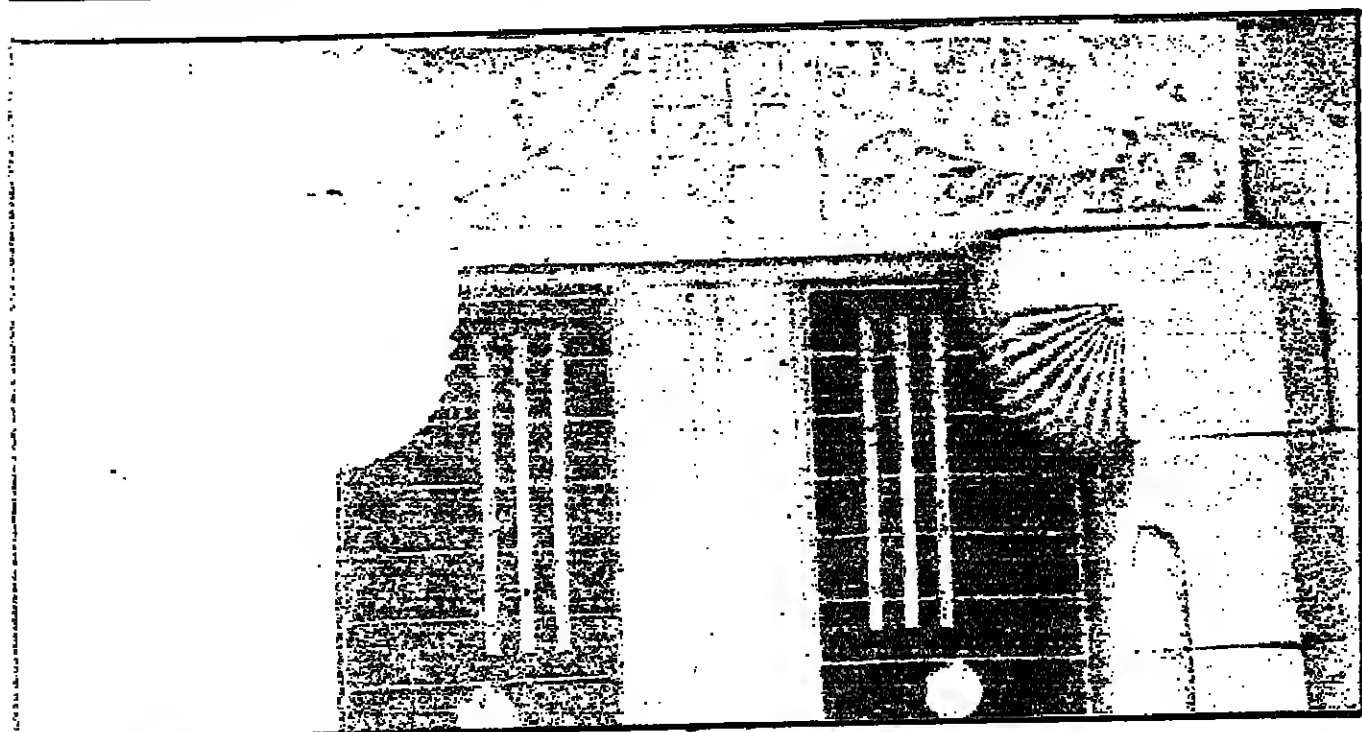
country wavers between conflict, violence and peace."

"This is going to be a huge operation. Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan meet in Moscow. I extend an appeal to them that they should come together and give the United Nations multilateral means, with no strings attached, to rebuild this country which has been virtually destroyed during the nearly 10 years of conflict."

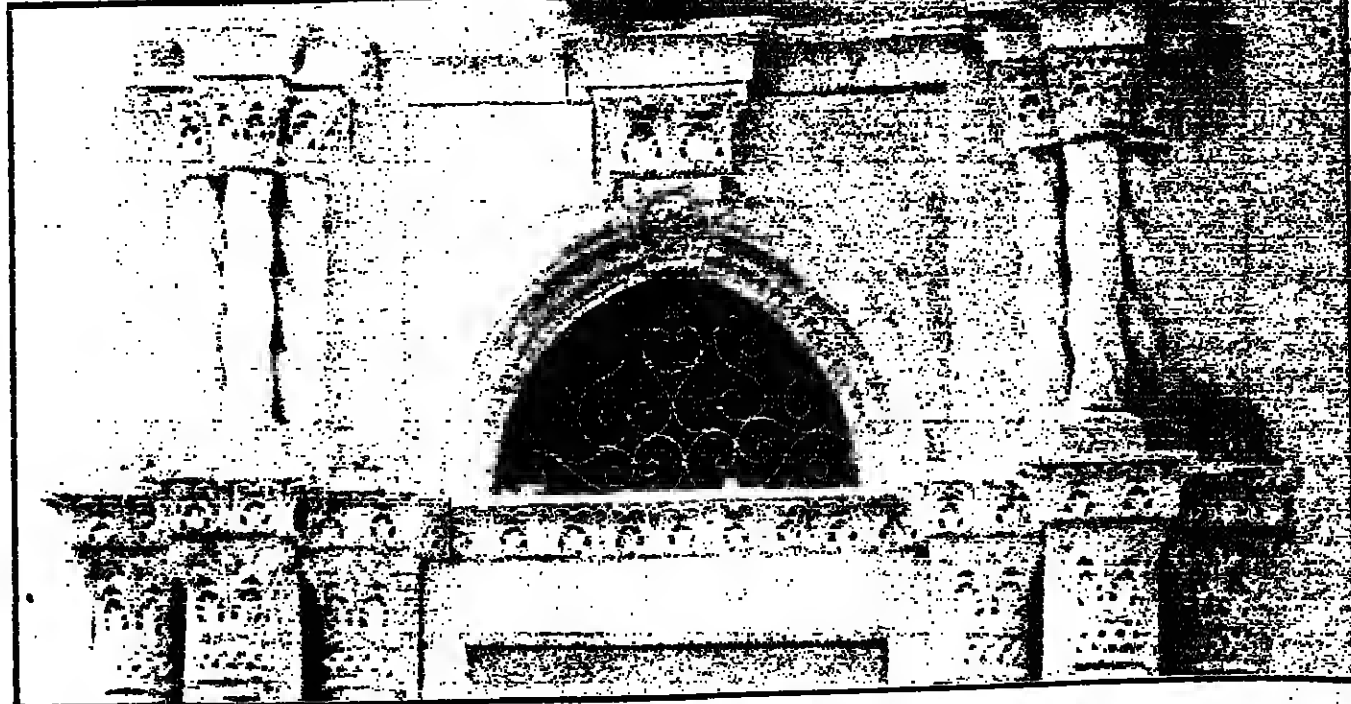
He said the U.N. secretary-general would launch a worldwide appeal for Afghan refugees during the first half of June, but declined to say how much he would ask for. Prince Sadruddin warned that the appeal might be only the first as "this is obviously going to take a long time."

He emphasised that the return of the refugees must be planned carefully.

"It would be tragic if the people were to rush back in a disorganised way and then you had a new emergency inside the country and even a famine," he said. Many Western governments



Left and right engraved ornamentation of old buildings in Salt



Preserving the old city of Salt

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Concern over the rapidly deteriorating condition of the fine old buildings in Salt's city centre has been growing for several years and one body which is acutely aware of the terrible state of disrepair of the grand old houses is the Salt Development Corporation (SDC). "Salt began to go into a decline about fifty years ago when its inhabitants started to move away to Amman," mayor of Salt and member of the SDC, Dr. Abdul Razaq Al Nassour told the Jordan Times. With the loss of much of its human and financial power, many buildings were abandoned and those still occupied were not properly maintained. Attempts to modify some of the buildings to meet the needs of their occupants were often at the expense of their architectural character. It was however during the 1960's that the most serious damage was done.

"The local authorities at the time thought that the best thing to do was to mimic Amman," Dr. Al Nassour said, "a project was proposed and in order for it to be executed many irreplaceable

structures like the old Ottoman governmental buildings and the streets paved with Turkish flagstones were pulled down. It was a massacre."

From that point the Municipality of Salt and the SDC began planning to preserve not only what remained of the old buildings but also the whole character of the city especially in the Central Business District (CBD). No small task and the SDC realised that even if it had the funds to buy up the whole CBD of Salt and restore it, they would be left with lifeless monuments. What was really needed was a plan that would not only preserve the buildings but one which would also inject new economic and social life into the area. This economic development should not only stimulate existing commercial establishments but also create new economic activities while at the same time upgrading public services and facilities in the CBD to meet the future economic and social growth.

Knowing that the Building Research Centre (BRC) of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) was involved in extensive survey work on the old buildings in Salt for its Handbook of Architectural

Heritage, the SDC approached BRC and asked if the same team could propose a plan that would revitalise and preserve the CBD. The BRC was happy to help; through such a project they would be able to develop their own expertise which could then be used for similar studies in other towns in the future.

Work on the Salt central business district implementation plan as it is called is due to start on June 1; it is hoped that all the contracts between the various concerned parties would have been drawn up by that time. With financing from PETRA it is hoped the entire duration of the project will only be eight months, the work being divided up into four separate stages.

Four teams

"During the first stage all the sites will be surveyed and data will be collected," project manager and deputy director of the BRC, Dr. Seyfeddin Muaz said. "There will be four teams involved: The preservation team; the engineering team, who will check the viability of the existing structures; the socio-economic team who will assess all the problems involved; and the legal team

who will look into the rules and regulations available to protect and preserve the buildings."

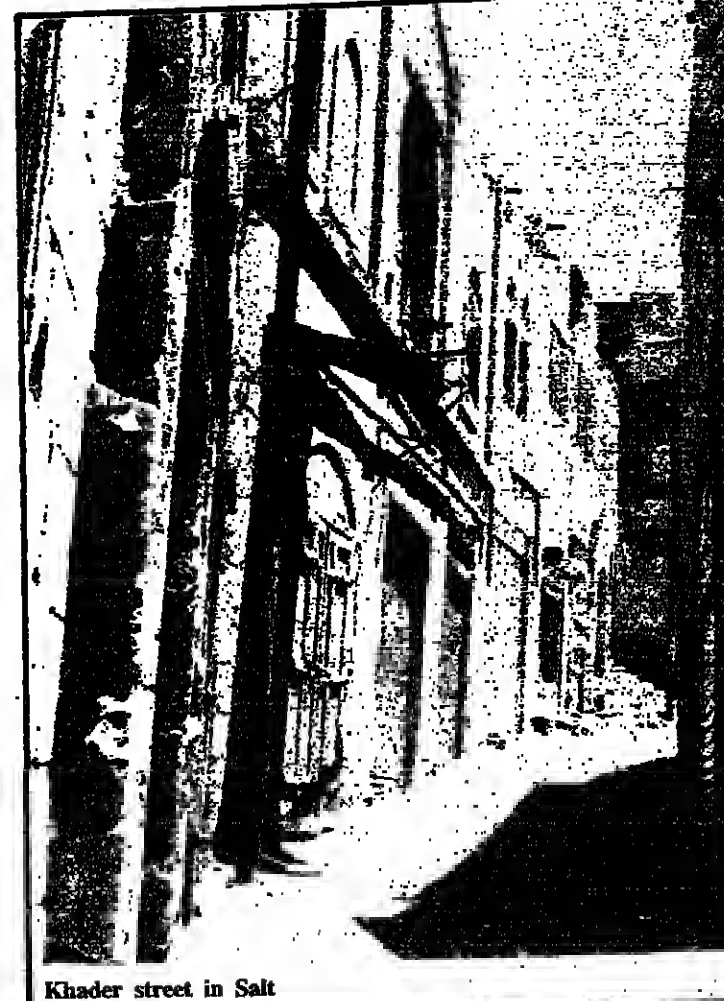
Once the data has been collected and analysed a workshop will be held to which all interested parties will be invited. Through discussion views and ideas will be voiced and the teams will receive the much needed feedback required for the plan to be ultimately successful. A comprehensive plan for the preservation and revitalisation will then be drafted which will fall into two parts — a plan for immediate action and a second plan for more long term projects.

With the establishment of new recreational and social centres it is hoped the plan will create a potential for tourism which will add a new source of revenue to the whole city and will "revive the sense of pride the people of Salt have in their own city."

"We are very excited about the plan," Dr. Al Nassour concluded, "through it we hope to stop the destruction of our beautiful buildings and to be able to preserve them. It will be a very costly project but I hope all the efforts will unite to preserve the only city which has a unique architecture in Jordan."



Hamman street in Salt



Khader street in Salt



Right and left parts of downtown Salt that will be renovated



TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Kottan
15:50 Programme review
16:20 Children's programmes
17:05 Drama Rama
17:30 Animals Express
17:55 Local programme
18:20 Soccer
19:10 Local agricultural programme
19:50 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme on Arabic
22:20 Programme review
22:50 News summary in Arabic
23:10 TV magazine contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rue Carnot
18:30 L'Ecole des Fans
19:00 News in French
19:15 Les Sciences à la une (documentary)
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
19:50 News in Arabic
20:30 Check it Out
21:10 Japan (documentary)
22:00 News in English
22:30 Private Eye
23:10 Richman, Poorman

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 9580 KHz. SW
Tel: 774111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
11:05 In Concert
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Talk
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instruments
15:00 News Summary
15:05 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Old Favourites
17:00 Listeners' Choice
18:05 News Summary
18:05 Rhythms and Blues
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show continued
21:55 News Summary

BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 The Seven Ages of Man 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial Review 08:00 World News 08:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 08:30 Sportsweek 08:45 Letter from America 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Jazz for the Asking 10:00 World News 10:05 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 From Our Own Correspondent 10:45 Book Choice 10:50 Waveguide 11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 Pleasures Yours 12:00 World News 12:05 The Sunday Papers 12:15 Science in Action 12:45 Squaring the Triangle 13:00 News Summary followed by Short Story 13:15 Classical Record Review 13:30 Religious Service 14:00 World News 14:05 News About Britain 14:15 From Our Own Correspondent 14:30 Great British Concert Halls 15:00 News Summary followed by Play of the Week: In Two Minds 16:00 World News 16:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 16:30 Sports Roundup 16:45 The Tony Myatt Record Show including at 17:00 News Summary 17:30 Jazz Score 18:00 Radio Newsdesk 18:15 Concert Hall 19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary 19:15 From Coca to Cocaine 19:45 Letter from America 20:00 World News 20:05 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 Brain of Britain 1988 22:00 News Summary followed by Classical Record Review 22:15 A Confederacy of Dunces — Part 2 22:45 I Heard You Say So 23:00 World News 23:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9265, 1174, 11925 and 15210 Hz

07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 VOA Morning Studio One 19:00 News Horizons 19:30 Special News 19:10 Critic's Choice 20:30 Issues in the News 21:00 News 21:10 Encounter the News 21:00 News 21:10 Sunday Report 22:30 News 22:40 USA Standards 23:00 News 23:10 The Concert Hall 23:55 Editorial 24:00 News 00:10 News Horizons 00:30 Studio One

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.
★ Plastic art exhibition by Ghada Dahdala at Petra Art Gallery.
★ An exhibition about tower arrangement by Na'ale Adam Massarat at the French Cultural Centre.

★ A permanent exhibition of plastic art by 27 Arab artists at the Plaza Hotel.
★ An exhibition of art, folklore and Arabic calligraphy at Irbid Community College.

★ Folklore exhibition at Huwarah Community College.
★ An art exhibition by Lebanese artist Mahmoud Safa at Alia Art Gallery.

★ Two exhibitions at the Goethe Institute: one is about the development of typesetting and mass printing and the other is about German Woodcuts.

★ A painting exhibition by Suba Shoman at the Royal Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre .. 644371
American Centre Library .. 641520
British Council .. 6361478
French Cultural Centre .. 637009
Goethe Institute .. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777
Haya Arts Centre .. 6671816
Y.W.M.A. .. 641793
Amman Municipal Library .. 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at all times. Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace hotel. 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel. 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel. 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534. 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh. Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757.
Terzastia Church (Roman Catholic), Jabal Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. Tel. 625383.
chaplain's residence tel. 601359.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School to Shmeisani, Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman. Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811295.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:15 Aqaba (RJ)
10:30 Kuwait (RJ)
10:40 Jeddah (RJ)
10:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:30 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:45 Cairo (RJ)
18:00 London (RJ)
18:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:00 Paris (RJ)
19:05 Frankfurt (RJ)
19:15 Brussels, Geneva (RJ)
19:30 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
00:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:10 Berlin, Larnaca (JF)
10:25 Cairo (MS)
10:35 Kuwait (KU)
11:00 Damascus (AZ)
12:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:30 Sharjah, Doha (GF)
13:45 Kuwait (LV)
16:00 Jeddah (SV)
17:35 Athens (OA)
19:25 Frankfurt (LH)
20:15 Beirut (ME)
22:05 Cairo (MS)
01:00 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:00 Aqaba (RJ)
12:00 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:30 Kuwait, Doha (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
20:45 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
20:50 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:55 Baghdad (RJ)
21:00 Larnaca (RJ)
21:00 Jeddah, Sana'a (RJ)
21:15 Cairo (RJ)
21:15 Damascus (RJ)
22:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
23:00 Bangkok (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:20 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
10:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)
10:40 Larnaca, Berlin (LF)
11:20 Cairo (MS)
12:25 Kuwait (KU)
12:30 Rome (AZ)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:30 Bahrain, Doha, Sharjah, Muscat (GF)
15:00 Tripoli (LN)
17:40 Jeddah (SV)
18:20 Athens (OA)
20:15 Sana'a (LH)
22:50 Cairo (MS)

PRAYER TIMES

6:50 Fajr
05:24 Sunrise
16:16 Dhuhr
16:16 'Asr
19:42 Maghreb
21:16 Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Saturday rates
Local sell/buy rates in Jds
Belgian franc (for 10) 96.1 / 99.5
Dutch guilder 179 / 185.3
French franc 59.2 / 61.4
Italian lira (for 100) 271 / 284.2
Japanese yen (for 100) 273.6 / 297.7
Swedish crown 24.0 / 249.3
Swiss franc 636.5 / 659.5
U.K. sterling pound 340.7 / 352.4
U.S. dollar 340.7 / 352.4
W. German mark 200.4 / 207.6

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be generally dry and hot with a slight rise in temperature during the day. The winds will be south-easterly moderate and freshening at times. In Aqaba, it would be dusty with westerly winds and calm seas.

Amman Min/max. temp. 14 / 31
Aqaba 23 / 39
Deserts 14 / 34
Jordan Valley 18 / 36
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent, Aqaba 21 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman government 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Quesneh 707233
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 630341
Blood Bank 738303
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 622090-3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 639141
Traffic police 896390-1
Electric Power Co. 636361/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints 771125/8
Queen Alia Intl. Airport (08)533060

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Al-Bashir Maternity J. Amn. 644281/6
Al-Bashir Maternity J. Amn. 643241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mafha, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 641714
Shmeisani Hospital 668131
University Hospital 845845/65
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic Abdali 666127/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Mahajreen 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 891117/26
Army, Marks 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Anal Hospital 674155

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Ayed Al-Ashhab 602507
Dr. Adil Dabboub 833644
Dr. Yusuf Hourani 625478
Dr. Akram Samhan 894611
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 776336
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Nairokh pharmacy 626372
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

TAXIS

Ahram taxi 663911
Zaid taxi 664476
Khayyam taxi 641544
Cairo taxi 819157
Jordan taxi 626302
Kurdi taxi 841309

IRBID:

Dr. Ayid Mansi 771117/19
Al Shamsa pharmacy 273825

ZARQA:

Dr. Raif Atallah 85417
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 17
Overseas calls 626300
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.
Apple (French) 480 / 360
Apple (green) 450 / 400
Apple (Lebanese) 300 / 250
Banana 320 / 280
Banana (Mukammal) 270 / 220
Beans 270 / 220
Beans (broad) 120 / 80
Cabbage 130 / 100
Carrot 120 / 100
Cauliflower 230 / 180
Cherry (green) 900 / 800
Cucumbers 180 / 140
Dates (2 kg) 500 / 400
Eggplant (large) 120 / 80
Eggplant (small) 140 / 100
Garlic (green) 220 / 180

Lemon 240 / 200
Mallow 110 / 80
Marrow 170 / 140
Onion (dry) 80 / 40
Onion (local) 320 / 280
Okra 800 / 600
Peas 600 / 500
Peas 600 / 500
Pepper (hot) 220 / 180
Pepper (sweet) 220 / 180
Potato 320 / 280
Strawberry 800 / 600
Tomatoes 80 / 40
Vine leaves 200 / 280
Watermelon 120 / 100
Sweetmelon 380 / 320

Queen opens Basman HQ, gardens

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday opened the Greater Amman Municipality's headquarters of the Basman district in Hashimi Shamali, and Al Karameh Garden in Jabal Amman.

The headquarters is a large complex comprising of offices, a public library, a multi-purpose hall seating 500 people, a car park and an adjacent public garden, all set up on a five-and-a-half dunum of land.

An open theatre in the garden has been set up for children's plays located next to a children's library.

The complex offers services to some 180,000 residents in the Basman district in the eastern area of the capital.

According to a municipality official, the new complex is regarded as a model for all municipality buildings, to be set up at the rate of two annually, in all Greater Amman areas.

He said that such complexes are bound to contribute to the development of local community by stimulating social activities.

The Karameh Public Garden was set up by the municipality on Jabal Amman within the Zahran district.

At the ceremony the Queen planted an olive tree in the garden set up on a four dunum land.

Afterwards, the Queen opened the Martyrs' Garden at the Manara district of Nasr, not far away from the Urban Development Department's housing estate.

The Queen planted another olive tree in that garden amid cheers of local residents, in the presence of Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and other officials.

The ceremonies were part of the Greater Amman Municipality's celebrations of the Kingdom's anniversary of independence.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday opens the Greater Amman Municipality's Basman district headquarters (below) Queen Noor opens the Martyrs' Garden at the Manara district in Amman (Petra photos)



NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CONDOLENCES: His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Saturday assigned the director of his office Turki Al Khreisha to convey his condolences to Al Zaben family on the passing away of 'Ouseis Fahd Trad Al Zaben.

TABBAA RETURNS: Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Hamdi Tabbaa returned to Amman Friday evening following a visit to the U.S. in the company of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Tabbaa took part in the Jordanian investment and trade seminar held at Atlanta and Pittsburgh to stimulate Jordanian-U.S. business relations.

BOOK EXHIBITION: A book exhibition was opened at the Karak cultural and sports club. Several local publishing houses took part in organising the exhibition which is part of the governorate's celebration of Jordan's Independence Day anniversary. Nearly 1,000 books on different subjects are on display.

NEW HAYA ART CENTRE: A branch of the Haya Art Centre was opened in Irbid Saturday to provide various cultural services to children between the age of 6-12. The centre will also develop children's talents in music, computers and reading and will organise recreational trips.

PUBLIC GARDEN: The Cities and Villages Bank has approved granting a JD 25,000 loan to Al Mashari' municipality to finance the construction of a public garden in the city.

JORDAN ENTERS ECOSOC: The Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has decided to accept Jordan as one of its active members besides Egypt and India, Public Security Department (PSD) sources announced. The commission's decision was approved by ECOSOC during its meeting held in Vienna on May 5.

KHAMISINIC WEATHER: Khamisinic weather conditions are expected to affect the Kingdom Sunday and Monday with a rise in temperature accompanied by sand-bearing high winds, according to a statement by the Department of Meteorology. The statement said that the Khamisinic depression, which is now centred over Egypt will finally pass away from Jordan on Tuesday when a drop of temperature will occur.

LANDS, SURVEY DEPARTMENT: Lands and Survey Department Director Badri Mulqi visited Karak Saturday and met with its Governor Hussein Al Shobaki to discuss a number of issues pertaining to land and survey in a number of regions within the Karak governorate. Mulqi said that in the coming few days his department will open a new office in Karak to take part of the work which the Amman Central Department used to carry out concerning division of land and payment of fees.

'Applicants for teaching positions to get jobs'

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Civil Service Commission (CSC) director general said in a statement published Saturday that all university and community college graduates who applied for teaching positions at government schools could be offered jobs in the coming scholastic year.

Ibrahim Izzeddin said in his statement published in the local press that by the end of last month, the CSC had received 25,417 applications for employment in government departments of whom 16,519 were females.

The total number of university graduates was 6,600 half of whom were males, according to Izzeddin.

He said among the total number of applicants were 1,565 engineers and 379 doctors and specialists, but the arrangements at the moment are being made for absorbing those applying for teaching positions in implementation of resolutions passed by the first Jordanian Educational Conference held in September last year.

Izzeddin said that last year the CSC, which processes all applications to fill government jobs, was able to find occupation for 10,126 job seekers of whom, 6,495 were given jobs at Ministry of Education schools.

According to Izzeddin, job seekers will undergo interviews and written tests to prove their proficiency and their fitness for the jobs in government departments and schools.

He said among the total number of applicants were 1,565 engineers and 379 doctors and specialists, but the arrangements at the moment are being made for absorbing those applying for teaching positions in implementation of resolutions passed by the first Jordanian Educational Conference held in September last year.

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Regional talks on management of water resources opens

Jordan urges Near East states to control water resources

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Saturday urged countries in the Near East region to undertake plans and carry out measures to control water resources and rationalise water consumption to cope with the growing economic and social development.

Proper use of water resources and developing methods for monitoring underground and surface water areas ought to be seriously regarded by countries in the region to meet future water needs, Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmad Dakhqaan said Saturday.

The minister was addressing the opening session of a six-day regional meeting on the management of water resources and controlling water quality attended by delegates from 13 countries.

All measures should be taken, the minister said, to stem wastage of water and to introduce measures for water consumption and economic and efficient use of water available in countries in the region.

Jordan, like other countries in the region, witnessed rapid social development over the past two decades, coupled with rapid demographic and economic growth, which led to a considerable increase in the daily per capita water consumption, and also led to an increase in demand for water for industry and agriculture, the minister said.

He said that Jordan has taken a number of measures for improving water resources management, and has created a Water and Irrigation Ministry to unify

all efforts taken by different departments concerned with water supply, and water distribution in the Kingdom.

The seminar was organised by the ministries of Health and Water and Irrigation in cooperation with the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), the World Health Organisation and the World Bank.

At the outset of the session Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh outlined measures being taken to ensure that drinking water is fit for consumption.

He said that all water resources in the country are subject to regular laboratory tests to determine their quality and to ensure that water pumped to homes is free of any bacterial and chemical contamination.

All Jordanian towns and nearly 80 per cent of rural regions receive water supplies through pipe

networks, the minister said. He said since the 1950s, Jordan has been following a sound water policy designed to protect water resources and utilise water surface as well as underground water areas.

A World Bank representative made a speech outlining the importance of regional conferences and seminars on an important issue such as water and means of controlling its quality.

The participants will discuss modern means and techniques in managing water resources, proper utilisation of available water supplies and importance of water in social and economic development.

Delegates taking part in the meetings came from Jordan, Syria, North and South Yemen, Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Pakistan and Cyprus.

Fakhrelnissa's works display raw power

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special in the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The French art critic, Andre Parinaud once wrote, "faced with the art of Fakhrelnissa Zeid, the critic loses his vocabulary and his ordinary behaviour." This statement more than ever remains true for the latest work of Her Royal Highness Princess Fakhrelnissa Zeid now on exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre is so totally original, so new it defies any easy classification, any normal means of description.

The Princess herself has called these new works "Kaleidoscopes" which gives some idea of their bright colours and of the light which pours through them, but it is a name that gives little indication of the stark, raw power of these pieces or of their mystery and presence.

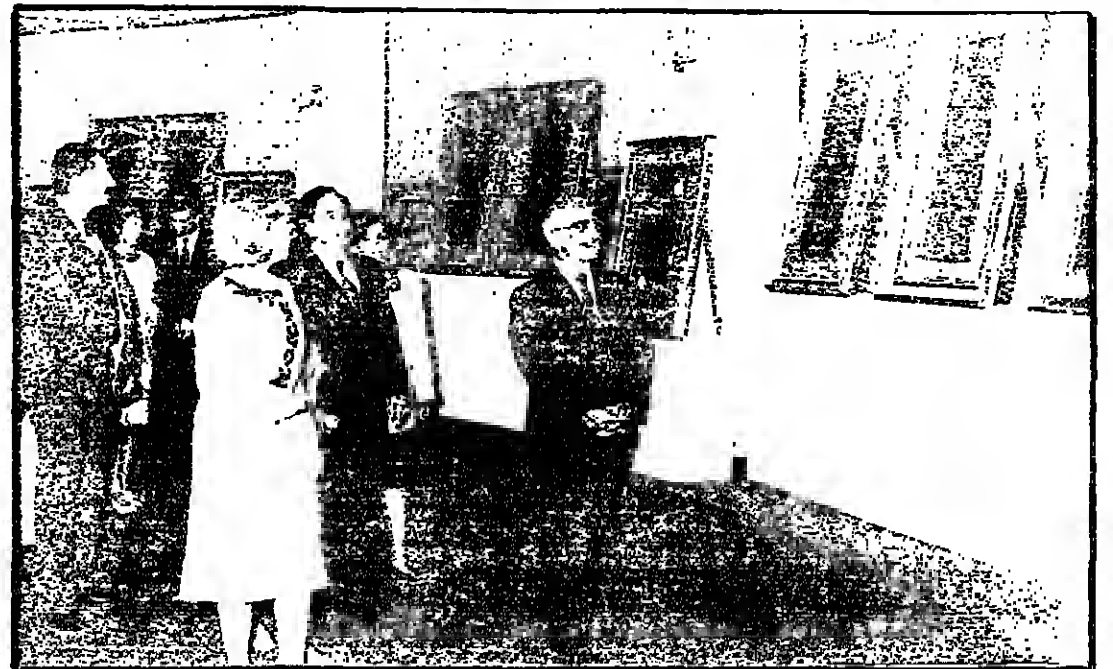
They are in fact made up of pieces of stained glass on which figures — mostly lion-like drawings of mother and child — have been forcefully drawn in heavy black lines of great definition. Once lit from behind, these figures spring to life, their faces aglow with a warm diffusion of colour.

The Princess, recently decorated as "Commandeur de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres" by the French government for her contribution to the world of art, only learned to cut and piece the glass together less than a year ago.

Guided by well known artist and long time personal friend, Varuni Hunt, the Princess went on to make over 60 works, very quickly adapting and developing the difficult technique to suit her own unique and strong sense of direction.

Initially the unusual media and the distinctive way the Princess uses it to express herself makes these present works seem very different from the huge and vital abstracts of the fifties and her later portrait work. But greater familiarisation reveals that these paintings on glass are a continuation of her work, with links that connect them to all that has gone before.

As a child, one of the first things Fakhrelnissa Zeid remembers is the light streaming through the grid of the mashrabiah and here is the same light lined with black pouring in some



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday reviews the art exhibition of Her Royal Highness Fakhrelnissa Zeid at the Royal Cultural Centre (Petra photo)

80 years later, just as it filled her abstracts 30 years earlier.

It was with uncanny forethought that the great French art critic, Charles Estienne, wrote of her lithographs in 1951, "Fakhrelnissa's paintings seem to engage in the enumeration of strange populations committed to perpetual nomadism, which she presents in a light no less strange, one which turns from purple to violent, the reds and blues ringed with violent blacks as heavy as lead in a stained glass window. The light itself is exactly the fabulous — orientally fabulous — light of a Gothic stained glass window."

Just as the light and colour are vitally important to her work so are the black lines and painting on glass allows the Fakhrelnissa Zeid to use them to great effect. The drama heightened by the light shining from behind.

The simple shapes and features of her figures are echoed by strange symbols, crescent moons, stars and circles — hieroglyphs that speak of the ancient civilisations from which she is descended.

But whereas the light, colour and lines are all there in these

latest works, there is ultimately something very different about these paintings on glass that sets them slightly apart from the mainstream of her work.

Normally Fakhrelnissa Zeid's paintings are "explosions of light and reality." These paintings on the other hand are introspective, self absorbed. The women — the mothers, sisters and female friends — in these works are drawn much more roughly and symbolically.

There is about them a calmness, a sense of deep inner peace, as if they have achieved through the process of creation an ecstatic communion with God, the kind of communion sought by the Dervish as they spun round and round.

The Princess once said that when she works she is "always aware of a kind of communion with all living things... with the universe as the sum total of the infinitely varied manifestations of being."

"I then cease to be myself," she continued, "in order to become part of an impersonal creative process that throws out these works much as an erupting volcano throws out rocks and lava."

Never able to describe before hand what she will produce, the Princess works instinctively, sub-

consciously and because of this one immediately turns to C.G. Jung to help in understanding what the artist is saying. In Jungian psychology the mother stands for the collective unconscious, the source of the water of life and thus in the Princess' work they represent the cycle of life, its everlasting continuity.

It is relevant here to quote Andre Parinaud again. "With her," he wrote, "we are both in the dimension of true naivety and at the level of the sharpest cultural lucidity. Constantly all the extremes are present: The culture; the exact and the scholarly references; and the dazzling revelation of the wonderful image from behind the looking glass — Alice who would have met Picaso!" But in these paintings on glass it is not Picasso that comes to mind but Matisse who found himself "drawing with scissors." Paper would not do for the Princess — she needed her lines but with her glass she has achieved, as Matisse did with his cut outs, simplicity, light, colour, form, and the unmistakable throb of the force of life.

The exhibition, which was held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor, runs until June 5.

German minister visits Ma'in Spa Village

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The West German Minister of research and sciences, accompanied by German travel agents and journalists, is currently on a short visit to Jordan to study the possibility of promoting Ma'in Spa Village in their own country.

The group will also visit tourist areas in the country, but the main aim of their visit, is to orient themselves with medical treatment and facilities at the Ma'in Spa Village.

The group, who visited the Ashtar Hotel and health spa Saturday, were given a comprehensive report on the health benefits of the available treatment by Ma'in's specialist doctors. It was followed by a dinner under the patronage of Jordanian Minister of Tourism, Zubair Ajlouni.

The invitation was extended to the minister and his delegation by the management of the health spa and is hosted by the management of both Holiday Inn Hotel and Ma'in Spa Village.

Ureikat: ILO to discuss report on Israel's inhuman practices

AMMAN (Petra) — The International Labour Organisation (ILO), which opens a meeting in Geneva Wednesday, will discuss a report by a U.N. mission on living and working conditions of labourers and Arab employers in the Israeli-occupied territories, Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat said Saturday.

The report tackles Israel's inhuman practices, its violations of human rights and arbitrary actions taken by the Israeli authorities against Arab employers and Arab labour unions, the minister said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Ureikat is to lead Jordan's delegation to the ILO's 75th meeting which is to be attended by representatives of more than 150 countries.

"In 1974 and 1980 the ILO issued condemnations of Israel's racist policies, its violations of human rights and arbitrary actions against union leaders in the occupied Arab territory," Ureikat noted.

He said the ILO director general's report which will also be reviewed by the delegates, tack-

les Israel's colonial policies in Arab lands and their adverse effects on the Arab workers.

During the ILO meeting in Geneva, an international information festival will be organised to express solidarity with the Palestinian people and Palestinian workers, Ureikat noted.

He said Jordan's delegation to the Geneva meeting will submit an Arab draft resolution on the protection of rights and freedoms of Arab workers, Arab employers and their institutions in the face of Israel's practices, its terrorist actions and policies of racial discrimination.

The draft resolution, the minister said, condemns Israel's practices, its breaking of hands and legs of Arab youths and the demolition of Arab homes and the other measures that violate international laws and principles.

"The draft resolution deplores Israel's disregard to the ILO's 1974 and 1980 resolutions and its pursuit of colonial and expansionist plans in the occupied Arab territories," the minister added.

According to the minister the

draft resolution calls on the ILO, its director general and various funds affiliated to the world organisation to double their efforts in raising contributions and extending all forms of assistance to the Arab workers in the occupied Arab territories.

This item in the resolution, Ureikat said, aims to enhance the Arab people's social, technical, and economic capabilities in the face of oppression.

He said the resolution calls on the ILO director to intervene with the Israeli authorities to put an end to these practices, to release all labour unionists, cease all terrorist practices against the Arabs and end violations of human rights.

According to the minister, Arab ministers taking part in the ILO meeting will hold a series of meetings for coordinating their countries' positions with regard to the various issues on the ILO agenda.

Jordan's delegation to the ILO conference groups representatives of the Jordanian government, the Jordanian employers and Jordanian labourers.

Cabinet discusses regulations to benefit teachers

MAFRAQ (Petra) — The cabinet is currently discussing a set of unified regulations to benefit teachers' social and moral status in the community. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi said Saturday.

The first educational conference held last year issued recommendations which were regarded as a historic challenge for educationists and laid additional responsibilities on the Ministry of Education, the minister said at a meeting with teachers, school supervisors, and Department of Education officials in Mafraq governorate.

He said that the resolutions covered a host of subjects which call for pooling of all efforts on the part of all concerned in the educational process so that students can be provided with training, necessary for the coming century.

Dudin briefs Canadian defence team

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation representing the National Defence College in Canada met Saturday with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin to discuss issues pertaining to the Middle East situation.

Dudin outlined the development of the Arab-Israeli conflict and Israel's terrorist actions for uprooting Palestinian people from their homeland.

Dudin also spoke about Jordan's support to the Palestinian people under Israeli rule, to help them resist arbitrary measures. He also spoke about Jordan's firm stand with regard to a peaceful settlement which, he said, can come through an international conference.

The minister said that the current uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip was a natural reaction to the Israeli practices against the Arab population.

The delegation, which arrived Friday is due to leave on Wednesday, according to Canadian embassy sources.

The 55-member group is led by Major General Frank Norman, commandant of the college in Kingston, Ontario.

Jordan is the only Arab country in the itinerary of the delegation's tour, which also includes countries in Europe, according to the sources.

The delegation members are due to meet with senior Jordanian military and civilian officials and will look into educational and health programmes offered to

Palestinian refugees in Jordan by UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees).

Workshop debates principles of cooperative management

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Friedrich Naumann Foundation and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) Saturday discussed principles of cooperative management and organisation as well as cooperative campaigning in a joint workshop aimed at improving the knowledge and experience of workers in the cooperative field.

The two week workshop, in which more than 15 JCO staff members are participating, has both practical and theoretical sides to it.

During the first week, participants will discuss the development of the cooperative movement in the West; achievements of the cooperative movement in Jordan; self-help in cooperative work; information and research on cooperatives, as well as leadership and collective work.

During the first week of the

workshop, participants are expected to draw up a booklet on cooperative work that would be used by personnel working in the field of cooperatives.

In the second week workshop participants are expected to apply the theoretical information by making field trips and talking to various target groups in the southern part of the country.

The field trips include visits to local leaders in the Ma'in area, to the Shobak Agricultural School, as well as a visit to meet women leaders in Wadi Musa.

In Wadi Musa, further south, a veterinary doctor will give a lecture on cattle farming. Participants will also listen to an Imam of a local mosque talking about the idea of cooperation.

The purpose behind the field visits is for personnel in the cooperative field to come into contact with different social, educational, administrative and cooperative circles.

Jordan Times

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Hope for a global detente

THE fourth summit between United States President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, which starts in Moscow today, comes at a time when superpower relations seem to be marked by an increasing amount of realism and sobriety, which is good news for the entire world. The superpowers' accord banning short and medium range nuclear missiles is a historic achievement, which the world has applauded. We hope the spirit which produced the INF accord will continue to guide negotiators who seek to work out similar agreements on long-range nuclear missiles.

More interesting for us, however, is the sense we have of the superpowers' newfound willingness to cooperate on limiting or resolving regional conflicts. For many decades, the two superpowers have found it useful or appropriate to use regional allies as proxies in localised versions of their global confrontation. In the past year, however, there have been indications that Moscow and Washington have learned the futility of trying to score points against one another by using their military and political links with assorted regional powers. Thus, we have seen the two superpowers involved in a series of talks on regional issues, within or outside the summitary framework, which hold out the promise of defusing some of these local wars. This has applied to the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Gulf war, Southern Africa, Central America and, of course, Afghanistan.

The people who suffer and lose in such regional conflicts are the indigenous inhabitants of the regions, as the politicians in Moscow and Washington callously exploit regional tensions to serve their own narrow aims. Unfortunately, the realities of global diplomacy have often forced regional protagonists to turn to one superpower if they see that their local enemy is being supported by the other superpower. It is logical to assume that global detente cannot only encompass nuclear weapons treaties while the superpowers remain locked in confrontations which they direct but which are performed by local actors. Therefore we are pleased to add our voice to those many others around the world which applaud the spirit of realism and constructive disengagement which seems to define the superpower relationship, while hoping that this and future summits will contribute to global detente by helping to resolve regional conflicts in a rational and equitable manner.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Lesson from uprising

RENEWED anti-Israeli protests broke out in Jerusalem and the other occupied towns of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip after Friday prayers which resulted in the death of two Palestinian youths. The renewed protests clearly point to the Arab people's determination to pursue the struggle against Israel and its occupation of Palestine. The uprising, which is entering its seventh month shortly, is the only option available for the Palestinians to end occupation and regain freedom. The uprising is in fact the most instrumental means for regaining the usurped land and peace in the land of Palestine whose people have offered many sacrifices in the struggle for freedom. The uprising offers a chance to the whole Arab Nation to take up the struggle once again for the liberation of its lands. But the Arabs first ought to bolster their ranks and set up a pan-Arab rapid deployment force as proposed by Jordan. Such a force would back the Palestinian people's uprising and would constitute a real threat to the enemies of the Arab Nation. As the uprising is continued, the leaders of the Arab Nation prepare to open a summit meeting in Algiers where the formation of the projected unified force would be discussed.

Al Dustour: Uprising shall endure

THE series of clashes between the Arab population in the occupied Palestinian land and the Israeli forces underline the fact that the uprising is continuing and gaining momentum. The martyrs that fall almost every day and the determination of the Palestinian people to rid themselves of oppression and occupation enhance our confidence that the uprising will go on until liberation is achieved. All Israel's tactics to suppress the Arab population, the siege and the starvation of the refugee camp residents and the demolition of Arab homes have succeeded only in strengthening the determination of the Arab people and corroborating their steadfastness in the face of aggression and oppression. Indeed, the Arab people of Palestine are stepping up their acts of resistance and developing their revolt in the face of the Israeli military might. The resistance is now more organised than before and increasing in intensity, at a time when the Arab people are thwarting the Israeli army's measures and pursuing their defiance of the occupation forces.



Samih Husni — Sawt Al Shaab

Sawt Al Shaab: Superpowers' summit

AMERICAN President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev open their summit meeting in the Soviet capital on June 2 to discuss a host of hot issues including the Middle East question. There is no doubt that the Middle East question is being given priority on the agenda in view of the on-going uprising in the occupied Arab territories and the continued Israeli occupation of Arab land. Yet, a few days before the summit, the Arabs heard conflicting statements by U.S. officials on the prospects of an outcome following the Moscow meetings and statements about new proposals being made for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict, all favouring the Israeli side. These statements present the views of the U.S. and Israel, both of which believe they have the right to handle the issue in complete independence from the Arab World and the international community.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Non-performing loans should be contained

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

AMERICANS call them non-performing loans, banks in the Arab oil-producing countries of the Gulf call them difficult loans. We call them doubtful debts. These are loans which the debtors fail to service for three months or more.

There is no commercial bank or finance corporation which can claim to be free of doubtful debts. Non performing loans are a common phenomenon everywhere in the business world. Lending money in itself is a risk. The question therefore is about the extent, size, and effect of the problem, and the best means of dealing with it.

As far as we know, there is not even a rough estimation of the size and ratio of bad debts carried in the books of individual Jordanian commercial banks or the banking system as a whole. However, some conservative estimates put them at 10 per cent of the total assets, while other more aggressive estimates go up to 20 per cent.

Part of these doubtful debts was actually classified as non-performing, and accordingly the interest due on such recognised doubtful debts was suspended and not credited to the profit and loss account pending the actual collection of the interest. Nevertheless, a major part of these debts was not recognised as such, and accordingly

interest continued to accrue and to be treated as revenue to the bank. This practice resulted in paper profits that meant the payment of income tax and the feeding of general reserves as well as declaring dividends in favour of shareholders based on unfounded and unrealised profits.

The relative importance of doubtful, difficult or non-performing loans becomes evident when we realise that the shareholders equity considered to be the safety margin in the banks, large as it may be, does not exceed seven per cent of the total assets, 12 per cent of the loans and bank credit facilities, or 8.5 per cent of deposits. Thus the problem is no more an internal problem to be left to the management of each bank to deal with as it may see appropriate. The problem concerns the Central Bank which is charged with the responsibility of safeguarding the interest of depositors as well.

The fact that every bank or finance house did have bad loans in its portfolio is not avoidable and must be taken for granted. The worst way of facing up to the problem is to ignore and deny it. Management takes the wrong position that the debt is all right, the debtor is good, and the problem is only a temporary liquidity crisis. This position led

bank managers to indulge in extending further credit to the same debtors to keep them afloat. As a result bad debts grow out of proportion, good money continues to be thrown after bad, and banks become hostage to the needs of bad borrowers.

It is only normal and acceptable to expect bad debts in a period of economic recession. We had a recession that lasted for five years, and accordingly bad debts must arise. The problem is still manageable and could be contained if only it was recognised and if a plan to face it was formulated and implemented, on case by case basis.

The banking system together with the Central Bank inspectors and internal and external auditors must identify the doubtful debts. Management must take the necessary provisions to gradually take care of any loss. Shareholders must accept the sacrifice of taking less or no dividend for a year or two. The income Tax Department should accept the reserves for doubtful debts as a legitimate cost of producing income.

Under such a plan, banks need only sufficient time to grow out of the problem and retain their strength. Safety comes first, profitability second.

Superpower summit breakthroughs doubtful despite better ties

By Tony Barber
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Despite the improved climate of superpower relations, both the United States and the Soviet Union seem to accept that this month's Moscow summit will not lead to substantial breakthroughs.

Policymakers also seem concerned that U.S.-Soviet ties may enter an unpredictable era after the summit as Americans elect a new president in November and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's domestic reforms move into a critical stage.

The limits on rapid progress in relations are reflected in the acknowledgement on both sides that, contrary to earlier hopes, the May 29-June 2 summit will not produce an accord to halve their arsenals of intercontinental nuclear weapons.

Perhaps more significantly, a dispute over a treaty to ban medium-range missiles — signed and thought to have been wrapped up at last December's Washington summit — pointed up the tensions still underlying U.S.-Soviet relations.

This dispute, over procedures for verifying the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) pact, now seems cleared up, and U.S. officials hope the senate will ratify it in time for the Moscow meeting.

But it is a measure of how delicate U.S.-Soviet relations are that the success of this summit may be judged by whether the two countries can solve problems with a treaty they signed last year.

"That seems to be the nature of U.S.-Soviet relations at this stage," Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said a few days ago.

"We will for a long time continue to pay the ransom of mutual distrust. This is a fact."

Secretary of State George Shultz likes to remind sceptics that the climate of U.S.-Soviet ties is much better than in the early 1980s, when most arms control talks were suspended and harsh public invective dominated super-

power exchanges.

Shultz points to the INF treaty, an agreement under which Soviet forces began leaving Afghanistan on May 15, and other lesser accords as solid diplomatic achievements.

He says the Moscow summit will not lack substance. However, Shultz also said this month that a Strategic Arms Reductions Treaty (START) — proclaimed by Reagan and Gorbachev at their Washington summit as the goal of their next meeting — would not be possible by the Moscow summit.

U.S. arms negotiator Paul Nitze pointed to the uncertain future of strategic arms talks when he said this month that, if an accord is not reached by September, there is no prospect of one soon after because of the impending U.S. elections.

Whether the new president is Republican Vice President George Bush or Democratic Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts, the prospective nominees, it seems sure he will want to review thoroughly the details of superpower arms control talks before proceeding.

Between the Moscow summit and the assumption of office by the next president on Jan. 20, 1989, U.S.-Soviet ties seem likely to be on hold, if only because the elections and the formation of a new administration will dominate U.S. politics.

An additional factor is Gorbachev's preoccupation with domestic reform, particularly his efforts to neutralise opponents in the Communist Party and government bureaucracy and to set the Soviet economy on a course of radical change.

American analysts in and out of government say a Soviet party conference in late June may give a clearer indication of Gorbachev's strength.

But some think a stronger Gorbachev may not necessarily be good for the United States.

"To the degree that he is even modestly successful, the United States will face in the 1990s and beyond a militarily powerful and

politically more adroit Soviet Union," Robert Gates, deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), said in a recent speech.

Former Secretary of State Alexander Haig sees a deeper problem. "The Soviet preference for arms control has dominated superpower relations, while one by one, the broader political issues essential for the longer term are being negotiated only at times and places of Moscow's choosing," he said this month.

Haig is not alone among U.S. experts in urging that the United States not lose sight of superpower differences on issues such as

human rights and conflicts in the Middle East, Central America, Southern Africa, and Southeast Asia.

Georgy Arbatov, a Kremlin adviser and expert on U.S. affairs, retorts that the United States needs a dose of "perestroika," the Russian word for Gorbachev's reforms.

"So much has changed that obsolete thinking and obsolete policies threaten to lead the country into a dead-end and have a very damaging effect on the international situation," Arbatov wrote in the Washington Post this month.

Independent analysts cite Po-

land's recent labour unrest and popular stirrings elsewhere in Eastern Europe as portents of problems that could suddenly spring up to bedevil U.S.-Soviet relations because they are so difficult to predict.

Neil Macfarlane, a specialist in Soviet foreign policy at the University of Virginia, says that even if the United States and the Soviet Union wanted joint approaches to Third World conflicts, there is no guarantee they would succeed.

"The Iraqis, Syrians, Israelis, South Africans and Nicaraguans have agendas of their own which do not necessarily coincide with

those of the superpowers and which may give them a stake in sabotaging peace efforts," he wrote in a recent study.

Despite these forebodings and the seemingly poor prospects for specific diplomatic breakthroughs in Moscow, few in the United States suggest it is a mistake for Reagan and Gorbachev to be meeting for the fourth time since November 1985.

That represents a change from the days before their first summit, when some experts expressed concern that public support for superpower dialogue could diminish if the two leaders failed to reach major agreements.

Reagan's coming to Moscow — will the paint be dry?

By Mary Ellen Bortin
Reuter

MOSCOW — President Reagan is guaranteed a smooth ride — literally — when he sweeps into Moscow for the superpower summit.

In preparation for the first visit by a U.S. president in 14 years, Soviet workers are pouring asphalt, planting trees and painting the town — no, not red — in a burst of feverish activity.

A total transformation is being effected on Voyevodina street, which leads to the American ambassador's residence where Reagan and his wife Nancy will live from May 29-June 2.

"If you stand still for more than five minutes, you will get painted too," a British diplomat's wife remarked.

Newly-painted saplings grace yet-unpainted plots between buildings sporting fresh coats of pastel paint.

Asphalt was still being laid on Wednesday, and workers hammered away to finish the touchup of one of the typically old-Moscow buildings on the street in the centre of town.

Near the Kremlin, the venue of Reagan's official talks with Soviet

Leader Mikhail Gorbachev, workers were rebuilding the road leading to the Borovitsky gates on Tuesday.

That whole area was redone when U.S. President Richard Nixon came to Moscow in 1974 to meet Leonid Brezhnev, and the local people still call it Nixon Square.

At the foreign ministry's press centre, preparations to accommodate several thousand journalists converging on Moscow include a "remont" of the main conference hall, newly fitted with Spanish-made armchairs and West German electronics.

"Remont" — the Russian word for repair jobs of all kinds — usually strikes dread into the hearts of Soviet citizens, who know that once the work starts it can take years to finish.

But for visits by American presidents, the Soviets pull out all the stops to get the job done on time.

"Our Soviet neighbours are very happy about this visit because, as you can notice, there are things going on around here," a U.S. embassy spokesman said on Wednesday.

He was giving journalists a tour

of Spaso House, the home of U.S. Ambassador Jack Matlock where Reagan will stay.

Spaso House has not been spared the "remont" enthusiasm. American painters are giving the vaulted side entry hall a fresh white coat as Soviet workers toil in the garden, where a cracked brick walk leading to the main entry needs repair.

The face-lift extends to other expected stops on Reagan's itinerary. Vorovsky Street leading to the Soviet Writers' Union is currently closed to traffic, and the 17th century Danilov Monastery has just reopened after a six-year "remont".

The repairs have hidden advantages for some — students at a school on Kropotkin Street which Mrs. Reagan might visit were given an indefinite holiday about two weeks ago.

The Russians are past masters of the art of instant transformation. In the most famous example, an entire village consisting of nothing but false fronts was erected when Catherine the Great sailed down the Dnieper River in 1787.

The "Potemkin Village" tradition recurred for Nixon's visit,

When Moscow's Vernadsky Prospekt was quadrupled in width and full-grown trees planted in a few days.

Old buildings lining the road into town from the airport were torn down and new ones put up, almost overnight.

"Outdoor repair work is typical here in late spring, but the speed now is absolutely exceptional," one Muscovite said.

The relaxed pace of Soviet workers is no secret. President Reagan himself is said to be fond of the joke about the Soviet salesman who told a client his car would be ready in 10 years.

"Morning or afternoon?" the customer asked. "What's the difference, if it's in 10 years," the salesman said. "The plumber is coming in the morning," the client answered.

This explains the envious stares of residents living near Voyevodina Street but not fortunate enough to have Reagan's motorcade passing by their homes.

"I know why they're doing all this," an elderly woman in a kerchief remarked. "It's for the president — but my building is not getting painted and we still won't get to see him."

Political tremors foreseen at Yugoslav party conference

By Peter Humphrey
Reuter

BELGRADE — The pillars of "Titoism," Yugoslavia's unique brand of Socialism, are trembling. Triple digit inflation, mounting debt, worker unrest, corruption scandals and power struggles between regions and personalities have prompted the ruling Communist Party to hold its first ever "extraordinary" conference from May 29-31 to try to unite its fractious ranks.

"It is now not just an economic crisis, not just a political crisis. It's the system in crisis," a Western ambassador said.

"The party must be purged, expelling thieves and liars," delegate Vujadin Lazovic told the Montenegro party conference, one of a round of regional conferences before the Belgrade meeting of 786 delegates of the league of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY).

"That is the only way we can

surmount the difficulties with which we are confronted," he said.

His remarks reflected the rebellious mood of rank and file members and younger politicians, impatient with an "old guard" whom they blame for leading this once-prosperous country to ruin.

Politicians have publicly vowed there will be a clash of personalities and policies — for and against economic reform and more democracy — as the late Marshal Josip Broz Tito's self-management Socialism is blamed for today's economic, political and moral crisis.

The official conference tasks are to debate economic reform, political reform, and a reform of the party itself, unlike usual congresses held every four years to chart general policy lines.

The conference will examine how and why Yugoslavia's move towards market economy and greater democracy, policies confirmed at the last congress two

years ago, is being stalled.

Its outcome may influence whether Yugoslavia steps up reform or retreats to greater centralism.

"There is an ongoing conflict of democratic and undemocratic forces in the party and society," Stipe Suvor, a Croatian member of the party Presidium (Politburo) said last month.

"If democratic forces don't win, it will jeopardise Yugoslavia and Socialism," Suvor told a meeting of the Serbia regional party branch central committee.

Suvor, like other politicians, steered clear of naming names. The party has yet to find high-level scapegoats for the crisis.

"The conference will not be held in an atmosphere of general concordance, but sharp confrontations," Suvor said this week.

Yugoslavia has broken with past practice and is not allowing foreign reporters into the conference centre or inviting guests.

Suvor said the conference should identify those morally and ideologically fit and scrutinise regional party leaders who were obstructing federal policies.

The party should not let itself become a coalition of regional parties based on nationalism, he warned.

Reforms were impossible without changes in the party itself, Suvor said, urging it to abandon its political monopoly and stop interfering in state and government affairs.

Suvor has been a rising political star in recent years, along with several contemporaries in their 40s and early 50s — his Croatian colleague Ivica Racan, Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic, and Slovenia's leader Milan Kucan.

The struggle between ideas and personalities has unleashed a flood of unprecedented soul-searching in the increasingly free Yugoslav media.

"What's socialism?" "What's capitalism. Is there capitalism

without capitalism?" "Must the party change its programme?" What went wrong with self-management? Such are the headlines of the day.

Yugoslavia's highly-decentralised self-management economy was adopted by Tito after he broke with Soviet style centralism in 1948, handing self-management powers to the factories.

He also introduced a constitution providing for collective leadership after his death and sweeping regional autonomy, giving the eight Yugoslav republics and provinces an effective veto against federal government policy.

Free-wheeling self-management, with its uncontrolled financial practices, piled up today's \$21 billion debt and 152 per cent inflation.

The collective leadership system blocked anyone from ever outshining Tito, even after his death, but also made it impossible for a new strong leader to emerge.

The constitution gave the regions, with widely disparate development levels, a chance to stall every economic policy which went against their divergent interests.

Trapped by the economic crisis, the LCY lost political and moral credibility. Thousands of members have left the party and official unions in recent years, official reports say.

Yugoslav economists say one-third of the 23 million Yugoslavs live below poverty level.

Under pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Prime Minister Branko Mikulic this month launches an austerity programme, curbing pay and lifting some price controls and restrictions on imports and foreign currencies.

Mikulic is also drafting sweeping economic reforms — to re-vamp a system that was itself once deemed a bold socialist reform.

Prospects of contra rebels renewing war fade

By Alistair Doyle
Reuter

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras — Prospects that Nicaraguan right-wing contra rebels could resume their war against the left-wing government in Managua are fading because the contras lack funds and firm leadership, diplomats say.

Representatives of the contras and the Sandinista government were due to meet in Nicaragua from Wed. to try to work out a lasting peace in the seven-year war. A two-month preliminary ceasefire is due to expire on May 31.

But the credibility of rebel threats to resume fighting has dimmed since the United States

cut off military aid in Feb.

"Since Feb., the contras have gone from a relatively successful guerrilla force to a badly underfunded band with low morale," one western diplomat said. "I don't think that many will go back to fight in Nicaragua."

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega declared a unilateral one-month extension to the truce on Mon. but the contras say they will have to meet the Sandinistas to discuss whether to prolong the ceasefire.

But without new U.S. aid or a new leader to bind them together, the contra army may slowly disintegrate, diplomats say.

An estimated 6,000 contra fighters, out of a 12,000-strong

army, have moved to Honduras to receive U.S. humanitarian aid under a \$47.9 million dollar programme since late April.

But instead of resting and regrouping, the rebels have been bruised by a mutiny against their top military commander Enrique Bermudez, whom dissidents accuse of being corrupt, dictatorial and out of touch with a war that he runs mainly from Honduras and the United States.

The contras said last weekend the mutiny had ended, but suspicions between dissidents and loyalists are likely to linger. At least one dissident commander, Walter Calderon, has said Bermudez used threats to get other commanders to ensure their backing for him and that the

mutiny would continue.

One non-U.S. diplomat said that U.S. officials working in Honduras to try to help keep the contras together were increasingly depressed about the outlook for the rebels.

There was also a growing sense that the policy of giving out large parts of the \$47.9 million package of humanitarian aid inside Honduras was ill-conceived as it had lured the contras far from the battlefields, diplomats said.

The contras have long bad bases in Honduras, and have come to a remote area in the east of the country which was dubbed "New Nicaragua" before most of the rebels left Honduras in a major offensive in 1987.

That offensive was spurred by

an unprecedented \$100 million package of U.S. military aid, but chances of a major new package of military supplies to encourage the contras to leave Honduras again seem slim.

"Only if the Sandinistas do something incomprehensibly stupid are there good prospects for the contras to receive new military aid," one diplomat said.

Since the signing of a Central American peace plan last August, the Sandinistas have made some moves towards the democratic reforms in Nicaragua for which the contras have been fighting.

But the rebels are deeply suspicious of peace talks and say they fear the Sandinistas are making cosmetic reforms in order to cut off U.S. support, defeat the re-

bels and then impose a strict Communist system.

Contra spokesman Bosco Matamoros said the Sandinistas had been using the two-month ceasefire, agreed on March 23, to reinforce positions in northern Nicaragua.

The Sandinistas "have moved large numbers of personnel and transport equipment to the north: it shows they're preparing a large operation against our forces," he said.

Matamoros criticised the U.S. humanitarian aid package, saying it did not provide spare parts for trucks and for the DC-6 planes that are used to transport the supplies. The aid covers food, medicine, uniforms, boots, radios and other non-military supplies.

سكنا من لاصل

FROM THE WORLD'S PRESS

U.S. sees high oil potential in Iraq

HOUSTON — The U.S. is moving toward closer oil ties with Iraq, which could emerge as the world's next petroleum Goliath.

U.S. Energy Secretary John S. Herrington has recently been nurturing the relationship because he thinks Iraq's oil reserves eventually will be equal to or greater than those of Saudi Arabia, which currently holds the world record for petroleum resources with 170 billion barrels of proven reserves.

Moreover, Herrington said in an interview, "The friendly Arab countries and the U.S. want stability in the Persian Gulf — and that equals Iraq."

Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi, Iraq's oil minister, is currently in the U.S. — at Herrington's invitation — for visits with both government and oil-company officials regarding Iraq's burgeoning oil industry.

In the interview, Herrington said that Iraq's growing oil potential and its ability to export increasing amounts through pipelines were "significant" and coincide with the interest of the U.S., which is protecting Gulf oil tankers from Iranian attacks. "Our underlying national interest is the free flow of oil," he said, citing Iran's threats to close the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow outlet through which Gulf oil tankers must pass — The Wall Street Journal.

Egypt, Algeria close to normal ties

CAIRO — The Presidents of Egypt and Algeria are said by government sources here to be negotiating the final points of a plan to restore diplomatic relations in advance of the Arab summit in Algiers next month.

Washington Post correspondent David B. Ottaway reported from Washington that a knowledgeable Middle Eastern diplomat said this week that Algeria was prepared to reestablish diplomatic relations with Cairo before the summit — The Washington Post.

PLO says it will seek clear-cut Arab stands towards Palestinians

BAHRAIN (AP) — A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official has accused Arab states of denying Palestinians political and financial support needed to continue their uprising against Israeli occupation.

Bassam Abu Sharif, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's media advisor, also said the PLO would seek at the extraordinary Arab summit conference set for June 7 to pin down clear-cut stands from each of the Arab states vis-a-vis the Palestinian problem.

Abu Sharif was writing in an elaborate expose published by the London-based newsletter Mideast Mirror Friday. A copy of the article was telefaxed to the AP.

"The question that will be asked both in private and in public will be: 'Who among you supports the establishment of a Palestinian state and who opposes it?'" Abu Sharif wrote. "There will be no room for double-talk or half-baked positions."

Abu Sharif charged that the summit, to be held in Algiers, had been delayed because of "behind-the-scenes tug-of-war" between the two views on the Palestinian issue.

He said Algerian President Chadli Benjedid took the initiative to call for the summit because of "a justified belief that Arab officialdom was guilty of dereliction of duty towards the Palestinian uprising in the occupied land."

Algeria felt that Arabs "not only withheld financial support to the Palestinians but also kept them under political siege," he wrote.

But, argued Abu Sharif, the Palestinian uprising had succeeded in putting U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' initiative "in a vicious circle" despite the weight the U.S. administration put behind it and the support of "allies" in the region. He did not name the allies.

In addition to Benjedid, Abu Sharif also praised Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

He accused the ambassador to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, who is currently in the Middle East, of pressing for "starving the PLO of funds" to stop PLO support for the uprising, "curb its (PLO) influence and reduce threats to the region."

He renewed charges that the U.S. administration was conveying "threatening messages" to the PLO leadership, accusing it of planning series of attacks against American citizens and facilities abroad.

"The purpose of such charges and threats by the administration is to prepare the climate for the terrorist operations against the PLO and its leadership and to cover up for Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people," he said.

He said Shultz, who is scheduled to visit the region next month, is likely to be followed by President Ronald Reagan as "the last kick of an outgoing administration."

He said the U.S. "administration felt the region was sitting on a powder keg, seriously threatening its interests."

But, Abu Sharif noted, the U.S. administration has exhausted its means to neutralise Arab effectiveness. He predicted that eventually Washington would have to accept "reality by recognising the rights of the Palestinian people."

Iraq's battle victories add to Iran's troubles

By Ed Blanche

The Associated Press

NICOSIA — In five weeks, Iraq has dramatically turned the tables on Iran in the Gulf war with two major battlefield victories that analysts say have added to Tehran's military and political troubles.

The unexpected aggressive spirit shown by the Iraqis, who for the last six years have been content to fight a static war behind their formidable defence lines, appears to have caught the Iranians flat-footed twice in just over a month.

The Iraqi Third Army Corps, spearheaded by brigades of the elite Presidential Guard, drove the Iranians out of marshlands east of the southern port city of Basra Wednesday in a lightning assault.

The Seventh Corps, also led by Presidential Guard units, recaptured the Fao Peninsula south of Basra in a 34-hour assault that ended April 18.

The same day, the U.S. navy

sank one of Iran's missile frigates and a missile attack craft and disabled another frigate in clashes in the Gulf after destroying two of Iran's offshore oil platforms.

That seriously damaged Iran's naval power. Tehran sought to save face by staging big naval manoeuvres.

But Western analysts noted that although Iran boasted 55 vessels took part, only five modern warships and an aging destroyer believed to be non-operational, were assembled with a score of small craft.

"They're clearly in no shape to take on the Americans again, but the Revolutionary Guards in their armed speedboats remain a menace," noted a European naval specialist.

The analysts said it may be too soon to consider this string of defeats a turning point in the seemingly interminable Gulf war.

But, the military setbacks in such a short time have badly jolted Tehran, already beset by economic woes, a political pow-

er struggle between radicals and conservatives and growing international isolation.

Iranian economy hit

Iraqi air raids on Iran's oil exports, its economic lifeline, and refineries in recent months have taken their toll. Iran is now importing unprecedented amounts of refined products like kerosene and jet fuel. The slump in the value of the dollar, to which oil prices are pegged, has cut the revenues it needs to pay for its war effort.

"The Iraqis are clearly determined to reclaim their territory," said Hans-Heino Kopetz, an analyst with the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

"But they don't seem to be interested in going across the border into Iran again," he said in a telephone interview.

The analysts believe that the sudden change in Iraqi strategy stems from Baghdad's frustration with the failure of the U.N. Security Council to impose

sanctions on Iran for not heeding a ceasefire resolution passed last July 20.

Iraq said it would abide by the ceasefire if Iran did. But Tehran has said it will only comply if Iraq is first branded the "aggressor."

The resolution also called for a return to pre-war borders. Iran's loss of its footholds in Iraq rob it of valuable bargaining chips in any peace negotiations.

Psychological blow

The two bridgeheads at Fao and Basra were two of the most significant gains the Iranians had to show for six years of fighting that cost them tens of thousands of casualties.

The loss of that territory is a major psychological and political blow.

In addition, the Iranians earlier this year endured seven weeks of Iraqi missile and air attacks on Tehran and other major cities.

It was the first time since the war began that Tehran, the

holy city of Qom and other centres had been hit by missiles. One Western diplomat in Tehran at the time said the psychological impact on Iranians was "extremely severe."

As many as half the capital's six million population fled to the countryside to escape the missiles that blasted a path of destruction across the city between Feb. 29 and April 21.

The Iranians were clearly outgunned. The Iraqis fired nearly 200 long-range missiles, believed to be upgraded Soviet Scud weapons. The Iranians were only able to fire one-third that number in retaliation.

Last month, the Iraqis said they have developed a new missile with a 990-kilometre range capable of hitting areas that has been beyond their reach.

The Iranians failed to launch a long-expected major offensive during the winter, when bad weather conditions favour Iran by neutralising Iraq's superior air power and armor.

PLO renews charge U.S. involved in Wazir murder

ABU DHABI (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has again charged that the United States was involved in the killing of PLO deputy military commander Khalil al Wazir (Abu Jihad) last month.

Salah Khalaf, number two in the PLO's main group Fatah, said a sea-borne force, including U.S. ships, was ready to intervene if the attack on Abu Jihad had failed in Tunis April 16.

"There was a big force at sea ready to intervene if the attack ran into trouble or one of the assailants was killed or captured," Khalaf said on state-run Abu Dhabi Television Friday night.

"There were fleets and aircraft carriers belonging to the U.S. and other states who helped the Israelis," he said.

Israeli agents are widely be-

lieved to have killed Abu Jihad in the raid on his home. Officials in Israel have publicly declined to admit or deny involvement.

Washington strongly denied earlier accusations by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat of U.S. complicity in the killing.

Khalaf said all PLO leaders were targets for Israel's Mossad intelligence service.

"(Mossad) has been after us for 23 years, helped by some foreign intelligence which I do not want to name," he said.

"They will not hesitate to hunt me, Arafat or any other Palestinian leader if they have the chance."

"Abu Jihad was a man who believed in fate," Khalaf said. "He used to advise us to take precautions but failed to do so himself."

Greek, Turkish Cypriot killed in shootout

NICOSIA (R) — Greek-Cypriot police shot dead a Turkish soldier Saturday after he killed a Greek-Cypriot soldier called to investigate a reported rape attempt, a military statement said.

The Greek-Cypriot National Guard statement said the soldier was shot at Athienou village, which lies east of Nicosia in a disputed area of the buffer zone dividing Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

According to the National Guard, the Turkish soldier "entered a house at Athienou village and tried to rape a woman." The family in the house ran out and sought help from a nearby National Guard post.

Official sources in Ankara said the soldier was a fugitive and a senior Turkish-Cypriot official said the U.N. Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was told the man was missing after he deserted his unit two days ago.

The National Guard said the Turk opened fire from the house, killing Guardsman Charalambos Charalambos and wounding another soldier.

Witnesses said a crack police anti-terrorist unit stormed the house, killing the Turkish soldier in an exchange of fire lasting several minutes.

In north Cyprus, one official source said: "The Turkish-Cypriot side is investigating how this soldier entered the buffer zone without

being noticed by UNFICYP, and why UNFICYP allowed Greek-Cypriot troops into the buffer zone to engage in a shoot-out with the Turkish soldier."

Political sources on the divided island said the gunfight — the second incident in the U.N.-controlled buffer zone in a week — did not appear to be a deliberate provocation.

"The incident was not a fight between the Turkish and Greek Cypriot sides but was the struggle of a Turkish soldier who either went to the wrong side by mistake or who tried to take refuge on the Greek side and was unable to reach it," said the Turkish-Cypriot official who asked not to be identified.

The shooting coincided with United Nations proposals for new talks to end 44 years of division in Cyprus. Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş has accepted the idea in principle but Greek-Cypriots did not immediately respond.

The prime ministers of Greece and Turkey are due to meet in Athens next month in continuing efforts to improve long-strained relations between the two North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

(NATO) allies.

The presence of an estimated 29,000 Turkish troops backing a breakaway Turkish-Cypriot state in northern Cyprus — which Ankara alone recognises — remains a divisive issue.

Turkey invaded Cyprus in 1974 in reaction to a short-lived coup in Nicosia led by officers of the junta then ruling Greece.

U.N. peacekeepers patrol the part of the buffer zone where Saturday's shooting occurred but Greek-Cypriots have three National Guard posts and a police presence in the village.

The nearest Turkish guard post is about 1,000 metres from the house where the Turk was shot. The shootings were the first fatal clash involving opposing troops since 1983 when Turks shot dead a Greek-Cypriot soldier across the narrow Nicosia buffer zone, which in places is only a few metres wide.

Last week United Nations soldiers killed a Turkish-Cypriot and two Austrian U.N. soldiers were wounded in shootings at Pyla village, the only mixed village of Greek and Turkish Cypriots in the zone.

Turkish Cypriots have called a demonstration to protest against UNFICYP's role in the death of the villager.

The U.N.-casualties were the first since the Turkish air force backing the 1974 invasion killed three Austrians in a napalm attack.

Turco-Greek peace bids inch forward but face major hurdles

ATHENS (R) — Greece and Turkey have given their fragile peace initiative a boost with new agreements to ease tensions in the Aegean Sea region but tough tests await their prime ministers at a meeting in Athens in two weeks.

"Now both sides have a historic opportunity and I don't think we can afford to miss it," Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz told reporters after four days of meetings in Athens.

Yilmaz, whose tough talk on Greek-Turkish relations set off several recent diplomatic scuffles, said new measures adopted during his visit could help pave the way for resolving problems which have brought the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) allies close to war.

"I believe in good time both sides will be in a position to face courageously, and to look forward to the solution of, our fundamental problems," he said.

Yilmaz and Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias issued an eight-point joint communiqué after the talks, agreeing to lift visa restrictions on diplomats and coordinate action against terrorism, illicit drugs and smugglers.

They also signed a five-point memorandum of understanding listing measures to ease tensions in the Aegean Sea region, where territorial disputes have caused deep animosity between the two East Mediterranean neighbours.

Papoulias told reporters: "I believe we succeeded in taking many encouraging steps in the right direction, just a few days before our prime ministers meet."

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu and Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, who laun-

ched a surprise peace initiative in January, are expected to address the fundamental problems when they meet in Athens June 13-15.

Turkey and EEC

Ozal said Friday Turks may question their continued membership of NATO if the European Economic Community (EEC) rejects Ankara's applica-

tion to join the community. Replying to questions about any possible links between the two issues during a meeting with financial journalists in Istanbul, he said: "Our public might have questions about the matter."

Ozal's comment reflected a harder tone towards the EEC in some official quarters after recent setbacks.

U.S. adds Aegis class cruiser to Gulf fleet

ABOARD USS VINCENNES IN THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ (R) — The United States navy has added one of its billion-dollar Aegis cruisers, the fleet's most powerful and sophisticated warships, to its Gulf-based squadron.

Captain Will Rogers III, skipper of the Vincennes, said that despite its multi-purpose capabilities his ship did not represent an escalation of the U.S. armed presence in the war-torn waterway, where tensions have run high since U.S. and Iranian naval forces engaged in serious clashes April 18.

"Let's face it. It's a low-level threat," Rogers said, referring to the Iranians. "We don't consider the Iranians an enemy. We're not at war with them."

The Vincennes, fitted with "Aegis," a state-of-the-art, computerised radar surveillance and missile weapons system, brings to the Gulf "a multi-mission capability" equivalent to several U.S. warships now on duty there, Rogers said.

The system is designed to enable the ship to manage a hostile situation in defence of an aircraft carrier battle group, he added. Rogers, speaking to members of the Pentagon news media pool aboard the Vincennes, said the ship would replace the guided missile cruiser Wainwright and take over the anti-aircraft surveillance role performed since February by that craft.

The Wainwright is one of five vessels leaving the Gulf in the next few days as part of a rotation announced earlier by the Pentagon. The Vincennes had just one day's notice and spent only 90 hours in port preparations before making a 32-day, 13,000-nautical-mile dash across the Pacific from San Diego, California, to the Gulf of Oman where it arrived on May 22.

The ship did not actually enter the Gulf until Saturday. Some officers said the delay apparently occurred because senior U.S. officials did not want the superpowerful warship to sail through the Strait of Hormuz into the Gulf while Iran was conducting several days of naval manoeuvres in the area.

Protesters attack Israeli army HQ in Gaza

(Continued from page 1)

The army forbade the group from waving banners and handing out brochures. The group hung large banners on its buses for the first part of the journey out of Jerusalem, then stopped to remove them when entering the West Bank.

After the signs were removed, the convoy of cars and buses continued with lights on. Demonstrators waved out of windows and smiled at Palestinians, many of whom waved and smiled back.

Ra'ed, 19, a Palestinian student from Al Bireh, said: "This is a good thing, Peace Now is a good movement in Israel and we wish them success to work with us to liberate the occupied lands because we know that most Israelis are not with us."

Peace Now is best known for gathering 400,000 people to demonstrate in Tel Aviv in 1982 after Israeli-allied militiamen

massacred Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut.

Demonstrators said they had wanted especially to visit the village of Beit, where two Palestinians and an Israeli girl were killed in a clash in April. The army found the girl had been accidentally shot by another Israeli, but blew up 13 houses in the village as a reprisal for attacks by Palestinians on Jewish settlers.

"We wanted to see the West Bank Palestinians, especially those from Beit, to give them a different message than the settlers. We wanted to tell them 'we respect your humanity and dignity and we hope a solution will be found,'" said Edi Kaufman, a peace activist.

The army blocked entrances to all Palestinian villages and Jewish settlements on the route to prevent demonstrators from mingling with local people.

The Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO)-linked leadership of the uprising Saturday issued its 18th communiqué of directives on how to continue resistance, Palestinian sources said.

It repeated previous calls for Palestinians to working to bring about the resignation of Israeli authorities, asked schools to set up new schedules to compensate for an almost four-month closure by the authorities, and called for refusal to pay taxes.

The communiqué said June 1 was "International Children's Day" and called for the giving of gifts to children of all Palestinian prisoners. A general strike was called for June 3, 4 and 5 during a Middle East visit by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The leaders called for the Palestinian issue to be a central issue at the U.S.-Soviet summit in Moscow next week and also asked Arab countries to take a unified stand on the matter.

Stage set for superpower summit in Moscow

(Continued from page 1)

prisoners and other liberalising moves had bolstered relations between Washington and Moscow and offered hope for a brighter future.

"And that's why we're ready to work with the Soviets. To praise, and criticise, and work for greater contact, and for change," Reagan said. "Because that is the path to lasting peace, greater freedom and a safer world."

Reagan, in a separate telecast to the Soviet Union, appealed for more openness and religious freedom and repeated his praise for Gorbachev as a break with the past.

"I have to say I think there is a difference between this general secretary and other of your leaders that I had met with in the past," Reagan said.

The interview was recorded before Reagan left Washington. In Moscow, politburo member and Moscow Communist Party boss Lev N. Zaikov said the summit, which begins Sunday, "opens up new vistas" in arms control.

"The meeting inspires us with hope that even greater agreements will be reached," Zaikov said in remarks to the Praesidium.

The Praesidium, a cabinet-like council headed by President Andrei A. Gromyko, voted after

more than an hour of speeches by members of the ruling politburo and other senior officials, including Defence Minister Dmitri Yazov.

Gorbachev sits on the 36-member Praesidium, but he appeared to be absent from the social meeting.

The Soviet action came just 17 hours after the U.S. Senate voted 93-5 to ratify the pact signed by Reagan and Gorbachev at their summit in Washington in De-

cember.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov hailed the ratification by both sides as "a very good prelude to the summit here in Moscow" and said the next step should be conclusion of a strategic arms reduction treaty.

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said the treaty "puts the policy of 'new thinking' into action" and would allow diversion of funds for use in the social sphere.

The Iranian embassy, in a statement issued on Friday, urged multilateral not to violate truce.

Iran initially rejected Syria's decision to police the suburbs as sought by Amal. But Tehran changed its mind after high-level negotiations with Damascus.

Syria, the main foreign influence in Lebanon, has more than 25,000 troops stationed in Beirut, the east and the north.

Diplomats said Damascus should gain substantial prestige and enhance its regional influence from the military action, especially if it led to the release of the foreign hostages.

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Prominent Soviet economists criticise cooperative tax law

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Two top Soviet economists Friday criticised progressive taxes on cooperatives, calling the taxes bureaucratic meddling that will discourage growth of consumer goods and services.

The Supreme Soviet, the country's nominal parliament, Thursday passed a law expanding the rights of cooperatives to compete with the inefficient state-run economy.

But in a rare move, the body expanded the rights of local government to give tax breaks to preferred kinds of cooperatives and directed that a progressive tax structure be decreed earlier be rewritten.

The Supreme Soviet normally only rubber stamps legislation that already has been approved by the Communist Party, the dominant force in Soviet society. Abel Aganbegyan, an economist close to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, told reporters that the progressive taxes that reach 90 per cent were "adopted behind closed doors" by the finance ministry.

"Some provisions are faulty. They didn't know much about progressive taxation," he said.

Aganbegyan said the taxes will not help stimulate cooperatives — small businesses that are owned by those who work in them. Gorbachev has said the cooperatives are a key element of his plans to improve the supply of goods and services to consumers, who face widespread shortages in the state-run economy.

Nikolai Shmelev, an economist with the Soviet Union's USA-Canada Institute, said the tax rates decreed by the finance ministry apparently would remain in effect until they can be rewritten.

Under that plan, tax rates would be 27 per cent on a monthly income of 1,000 roubles (\$1,600) and 53.5 per cent on an

income of 2,000 roubles (\$3,200). The average industrial worker makes about 200 roubles (\$320) a month.

"I think this law on progressive taxation on cooperatives is very bad. It puts obstacles in the way of development of cooperatives," he said.

He said the debate in the Supreme Soviet was an encouraging sign of life in that body. Aganbegyan said the tax rates probably would be on the books for a year or more before they could be amended.

He said a uniform progressive tax rate eventually should be developed for those who work in cooperatives and those who work for state-run enterprises. Currently, workers in the state sector pay a flat 13 per cent if they earn more than 300 roubles (\$480) a month.

Alcohol campaign

Under another topic, Soviet officials are debating whether to lift the Kremlin's anti-alcohol campaign which has led people to drink moonshine and given an impetus to organised crime.

Shmelev told reporters the per capita consumption of alcohol in the Soviet Union had not been reduced despite the three-year campaign and drastic cuts in state liquor sales.

"Unfortunately, I am afraid state-produced spirits, people are drinking moonshine. Sometimes they even drink chemicals," Shmelev said.

"Perhaps the policy should be revised. We are in a deadlock on that," he said.

The state lost funds through reduced vodka sales, while the production of home brew boomed, giving an impetus to organised crime, he said.

Shmelev spoke at a news conference to discuss Gorbachev's economic restructuring programme.

He is an ardent supporter of Gorbachev's economic reforms, but said the anti-alcohol campaign was misguided.

"This campaign is wrong. It took a wrong path. It took the path of administrative war," he said.

Gorbachev launched the anti-drink campaign shortly after coming to power in March 1985 as part of his plan to reform the economy, which had been badly hit by drunkenness among workers.

Officials cut the opening hours of liquor stores, raised prices and cracked down on public drunkenness.

But recently there have been appeals in the Soviet media for a reassessment of the campaign.

A May 6 article in the government newspaper Izvestia said Soviet citizens were angry at the Kremlin over a sugar shortage which it blamed on the rise in home brewing.

"Unfortunately, we embarked on the course without giving any thought to the economic aspects," Shmelev said.

Shmelev said the Soviet Union's drink problem would be solved over generations rather than a few years but the campaign had been successful in two ways.

"The streets of Moscow are calmer now and people stopped drinking at the workplace. This is the maximum that can be achieved by police methods," he said.

He said people might not spend so much money on liquor if there were more consumer goods to buy.

Jordan Worsted Mills declares 35% dividends

By Salameh Ne'matt
Jordan Times economic correspondent

AMMAN — The Jordan Worsted Mills Company has declared a JD 1,057,056 net profit for 1987

compared to JD 1,186,155 in 1986.

Despite the profit decline, the company is distributing 35 per cent in dividends to shareholders against only 26 per cent in the previous year.

Big devaluation marks launch of Yugoslav austerity programme

BELGRADE (R) — Despite worker unrest, the Yugoslav government launched a long-awaited economic austerity programme Saturday by freezing prices and devaluing the dinar by 23.9 per cent.

The moves cleared the way for a standby credit from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other fresh loans to finance a revitalisation of Yugoslavia's crisis-ridden economy.

Prime Minister Branko Mikulic's timing of the measures was bold, a day before the start of a special three-day Communist Party conference called to tackle the crisis and hammer out unity on reform plans.

The overnight devaluation, which will make Yugoslav exports cheaper and encourage foreign tourists, was the second big slash in the dinar's value in seven months, although it has been depreciating rapidly day by day for several years.

A year ago the dinar was changing hands at 609 to the dollar. Friday, the rate was 1,549. Monday, it will be over 1,900 to the dollar.

The government also removed controls from 40 per cent of imports and 60 per cent of prices, a step that will hurt workers already seething with anger over wage controls in a country where the average pay is less than \$200 a month.

The government kept controls on some essential foodstuffs such as milk and flour, with producers subsidised by the state.

Prices were frozen last November as inflation soared to over 170 per cent. Inflation is now 152 per cent and an initial price explosion is expected to follow this weekend's thaw.

The government slapped an immediate 32 per cent price rise on petrol. Oil went up 36 per

cent, train fares 38 per cent, electricity 31 per cent, coal 30 per cent and postal services 28 per cent.

The government has been at pains to convince the public that the austerity programme was not dictated by the IMF but adopted on its own volition.

Many senior party officials privately say they oppose it and that the IMF deal should not have been signed.

They believe debt repayments should have been suspended and structural reforms implemented first.

The standby credit, exceeding \$400 million, is one component of some \$1.2 billion in new credits Yugoslavia wants this year to ease the repayment burden on its \$21 billion debt. The World Bank and commercial creditors are providing the rest.

The financing is essential to support the liberalisation of prices, imports and foreign exchange controls which have been combined with wage curbs and public spending curbs.

The government is also keeping interest rates a few points above the inflation rate.

Western creditors insisted that Yugoslavia negotiate a conditional deal with the IMF before they would reschedule the debts and provide new loans.

The austerity programme was essentially what the IMF demanded, Western diplomats said. Yugoslavia, a non-aligned communist country of 23 million people, plunged into economic crisis in the 1980s after borrowing heavily in the 1970s, mis-investing much of the cash or using it to fuel a consumer boom.

Last July it missed repayments of \$245 million at a time of low exchange reserves and falling exports, which forced it to approach the IMF for help.

Reuters acquires 48.8% stake in Australian Associated Press

LONDON (R) — Reuters Holdings PLC said Friday it had bought a 48.8 per cent interest in Australian Associated Press Pty Ltd (AAP) for 74.2 million Australian dollars (\$59.4 million).

Reuters acquired 44.65 per cent of the domestic news agency's holding company from the John Fairfax Ltd Group and 4.15 per cent from West Australian Newspapers Ltd, part of the Bell Group.

Fairfax and West Australian Newspapers had originally agreed to sell the shares to media magnate Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation Ltd.

But Australia's anti-monopoly

watchdog, the Trade Practices Commission, said it would investigate the deal with News Corporation to determine whether laws relating to market dominance had been violated.

Reuters spokesman David Keefe said one consequence of Friday's acquisition would be to keep the Reuters stake connected with Murdoch to below 15 per cent, the maximum which Reuter trust deeds allow anyone to hold in the company's shares.

He said Murdoch's main stake in Reuters remained about 9.5 million "A" shares out of 100 million in issue, and 10.3 million publicly traded "B" shares, out of

321 million outstanding, which are held through News Corporation.

Reuters said it acquired the Fairfax and West Australian Newspapers' interest under an accord with News Corporation that had received formal approval from the Australian government.

The deal will give Reuters and Murdoch's company an equal interest in the holding company. AAP holds 13.9 million Reuters "A" shares on behalf of the Australian domestic news agency and has no other significant assets or liabilities. The stake acquired by Reuters is equivalent to 6.8 million underlying "A" shares.

Texaco rejects Icahn buyout offer

NEW YORK (R) — Texaco Friday rejected a \$60 a share takeover offer from Carl Icahn, paving the way for a full-scale battle for five seats opening up on the Texaco board next month.

Icahn had said he might drop a fight for the board seats if Texaco, the third largest U.S. oil company, approved or gave serious consideration to his buyout offer.

Texaco had already expressed doubts about the bid made Wednesday which values the company at \$14.5 billion, calling it illusory and lacking sufficient financial backing.

In a short statement after the Texaco Inc board met Friday at its White Plains, N.Y., headquarters, the company cited its substantial progress in restructuring

and a lack of supporting information provided by Icahn, particularly related to financing.

Texaco shares declined 75 cents to \$49.25, reaching the day's low after the announcement. Some had hoped Texaco's board might propose share buybacks or other shareholder incentives, and were disappointed that none was announced.

Texaco has estimated the cost of a takeover, with debt included, to be \$20 billion. But Icahn, the largest Texaco shareholder with 14.8 per cent of the stock, said his cost for buying the remaining shares he does not already own would be \$12.4 billion.

Texaco said its financial adviser, Morgan Stanley and Co, did not believe Icahn could obtain financing for the bid. It said Icahn made the bid after he had stated on May 22 that he did not believe he could obtain financing for an offer.

Federal Reserve see no further credit tightening

NEW YORK (R) — The Federal Reserve (Fed) sent a small but explicit signal Friday that no further credit tightening is imminent by injecting a modest portion of reserves to the banking system, economists said.

The Fed added \$1 billion of reserves to the banking system through customer repurchase agreements, a move which is typically not considered an important gauge of monetary policy.

But Friday, the addition was perceived by the markets as a sign that the central bank does not intend to raise its key discount rate yet and does not want federal funds rates to rise above 7.5 per cent.

The Fed funds rates — at which banks lend each other overnight reserves — stood at 7.5 per cent when the central bank intervened and had gone as high as 7.9/16 per cent.

Thursday, the funds rate averaged 7.49 per cent and traded as high as 7.4 per cent. Economists said U.S. bank data released Thursday largely confirmed suspicions that the Fed had raised its Fed funds target at least a quarter point to 7.25 per cent, but doubts lingered over the severity of the tightening.

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Regular market:	277310	JD 309396	373
Top three companies:			
Arah Bank Ltd.	510	JD 57770	11
Jordan Rockwool Industries	53000	JD 33873	43
Intermediate Petrochemicals Industries	16300	JD 21627	41
Parallel market:	56800	JD 28469	—
Development bonds:	191	JD 2044	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (I.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, May 21, '88 and ending Tuesday, May 24, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	200	284	—	1.420	1.000
Petra Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	669	1111	1.690	1.660	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	6800	10179	1.480	1.500	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	3684	4279	1.160	1.190	1.000
Housing Bank	3700	6352	1.740	1.710	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	5.000
Bank of Jordan	10357	153377	15.800	15.100	5.000
Arab Bank	920	104201	114.100	114.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	4935	12273	2.490	2.490	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	1750	1885	1.160	1.100	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	5311	9104	1.910	1.990	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	13187	6750	0.520	0.510	1.000
National Financial Investments	28300	51300	1.800	1.800	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	3894	2803	0.720	0.720	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	5060	6982	1.360	1.390	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	1995	1576	0.770	0.780	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	125	1813	14.000	14.500	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	150	2175	14.500	14.500	10.000

Oilers' tradition continues

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — The names change, but for the Edmonton Oilers the results remain the same.

Seven players who had their names engraved on the Stanley Cup after last year's victory were elsewhere Thursday night when the Oilers made it two National Hockey League (NHL) titles in a row and four in five years with a 6-3 victory over Boston that completed a four-game sweep of the Bruins in the finals.

Paul Coffey, Andy Moog, Kent Nilsson, Dave Hunter, Moe Lemay, Jaroslav Pouzar and Reijo Ruotsalainen were among the Oilers who outlasted Philadelphia in seven games a year ago. They've been replaced by Craig Simpson, Bill Ranford, Dave Hannan, Geoff Courtnall, Normand Leclerc, Jim Wierstra, Keith Acton and Steve Dykstra.

It's all part of Glen Sather's master plan — win now and win later.

"What happened this year will pay off in the future," said Sather, the Oilers' coach and general manager. "It's a big compliment to Wayne Gretzky, Mark Messier, Glenn Anderson, Jari Kurri, Kevin Lowe and Grant Fuhr, because they stayed here and they've been here for every one."

"They're passing on the tradition. Look in their eyes, and the younger players were as excited as the older ones. They're seeing what it's like to win. And winning is the only way to play this game."

Gretzky, who became only the third player to win the Conn Smythe trophy twice, said an important part of the veterans' role is what they can pass on to the newcomers to keep the team strong. He's one of a core of nine players that have been part of all four championship teams.

That core remained stable during an otherwise tumultuous 12 months. During that time, Sather traded Coffey, Moog, Hunter and Leway and lost Nilsson, Ruotsalainen and Pouzar to Europe.

But he replaced them with talented young players that not only lowered the team's average

age by almost a full year but also enabled him and his coaching staff of John Muckler and Ted Green to smoothly change the Oilers from a wide-open team to one that uses its speed as a defensive weapon.

The commitment to a team-oriented defence-first concept enabled the Oilers to dominate every playoff series. They lost only two of 18 games, twice had four-game sweeps and won a record 11 games at home.

Montpellier clinches UEFA birth

PARIS (R) — Just a year after their promotion to the French first division, Montpellier booked a place in next season's UEFA Cup with a fine 4-0 home victory over Marseille Friday.

Montpellier sealed third place with one match still to come behind newly-installed champions Monaco, who beat Auxerre 3-2 in their last home game of the season, and Bordeaux, 4-2 victors over Nice.

Goals from midfielder Gerard Bernardet, Yugoslav defender Nenad Stojkovic and two more from Thierry Laurey carried Montpellier three points clear of closest rivals Saint-Etienne and Metz Racing Paris, who both lost away encounters.

Racing were trounced 5-0 by Lille and Saint-Etienne succumbed 1-0 to breton on the most prolific goal-scoring night of the season in which 42 goals were netted.

In Monaco, where there was no admission charge in honour of the champions, 14,000 spectators thronged the stadium and the Riviera Principality was decked out for a party in red and white, the Monaco colours.

Mavericks beat Lakers in Western Conference finals

DALLAS, Texas (R) — Mark Aguirre and Roy Tarpley teamed up for 44 points to lead the Dallas Mavericks to a 106-94 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers in the Western Conference finals of the National Basketball Association (NBA) Friday.

The Lakers now lead the best-of-seven-game Western Conference finals two games to one, with game four set for Dallas Sunday.

Aguirre pumped in 23 points and Tarpley contributed 21 and 19 rebounds. Orlando Blackman chipped in with another 20.

James Worthy was the top scorer with 19 points for Los Angeles. Magic Johnson had only 14 points for the Lakers who were looking to grab a commanding lead, but instead lost to the Mavericks for the second time in eight games this year.

The Lakers led 76-75 after three periods, but Dallas, on a basket by Aguirre, went ahead 85-83 and never looked back.

Top athletes compete in Bruce Jenner Classic

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — Jackie Joyner-Kersey, one of track and field's top performers in recent years, and comeback athletes Ron Brown and Mary Decker Slaney are among the runners entered in Saturday's Bruce Jenner Classic.

Joyner-Kersey, who held the U.S. record in the women's 100-metre high hurdles briefly this month, will be attempting to regain it. Others scheduled to compete in that event include Patricia Davis and 1984 Olympic champion Benita Fitzgerald-Brown.

Joyner-Kersey is co-holder of the women's long jump world record as well as a top hurdler, and she is world champion and world record holder in the heptathlon. UCLA's Gail Devers, not competing in the Jenner meet, is the current holder of the American 100 hurdles mark, 12.61 seconds.

Joyner-Kersey ran a record 12.70 at Modesto, California, three weeks ago. Devers broke that last Saturday. Davis has run 12.71 this year.

Brown, an Olympic sprinter in 1984, has returned to track after playing four NFL seasons as a receiver for the Los Angeles Rams. Saturday, he will run the first 100-metre dash on the comeback trail he hopes will lead to the Olympic games. Others in the Jenner 100 will include Harvey Glance and Atlee Mahorn.

U.S. dockworkers greet 'Kiwi Mischief'

SAN DIEGO, California (R) — "Kiwi Mischief," the big racing sloop New Zealand hopes will take the America's Cup from the San Diego Yacht Club, was greeted Friday by U.S. dockworkers cheering on the New Zealanders.

As the monohull, mast and keel were being unloaded, a group of nearby American dockworkers shook their fists and shouted: "Hey Kiwis, kill Conner," a reference to Dennis Conner who is scheduled to lead the

American defence of the cup. "We just want to race him and beat him, not kill him," a New Zealand publicist, Graeme Colman, shouted back.

Conner beat Australia's Kookaburra III four races to none last year to win back the cup that he had lost in 1983.

But New Zealand's Michael Fay, who challenged San Diego through the Mercury Bay Boating Club, has refused to race his 90-foot load waterline boat against San Diego's much smaller

Baseball Standings

NEW YORK (AP) — Here are the standings after Friday's games in the American and National leagues:

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	31	14	.689	—
Cleveland	30	18	.652	1½
Detroit	28	17	.622	3
Boston	23	20	.535	7
Milwaukee	23	23	.500	8½
Toronto	20	27	.426	12
Baltimore	9	37	.196	22½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	32	14	.696	—
Texas	24	21	.533	7½
Minnesota	22	22	.500	9
Kansas City	20	26	.435	12
Seattle	20	27	.426	12½
Chicago	19	26	.422	12½
California	18	29	.383	14½

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	31	14	.689	—
Pittsburgh	27	19	.587	4½
St. Louis	24	22	.522	7½
Chicago	22	23	.489	9
Montreal	21	23	.477	9½
Philadelphia	16	27	.372	14

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	26	17	.606	—
Houston	25	19	.568	1½
San Francisco	23	23	.511	4
Cincinnati	23	23	.500	4½
San Diego	16	30	.348	11½
Atlanta	14	29	.326	12

Sabatini cruises into French Open tennis quarterfinals

PARIS (AP) — Fourth seed Gabriela Sabatini beat Brenda Schultz of The Netherlands 6-4, 6-1 Saturday to become the first player to advance to the quarterfinals of the French Open.

Sabatini, a six-foot-one (1.83 metre) 17-year-old who has moved up quickly to 49th in world rankings, lost her serve six times, but was able to break Sabatini's three times in the day's opening centre-court match.

Sabatini, 18, has not lost a set in her first four matches in the tournament. In the quarterfinals she will meet Helen Kelesi of Canada, who defeated Nicole Pietrangeli of The Netherlands 6-2, 6-1.

Boris Becker, the fifth seed, won 6-1, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3 over Thomas Muster of Austria, a left-hander who had the West German in trouble by running down almost all of his powerful forehands.

But when leading 3-1 in the fourth set, Muster chased a Becker shot and slammed into a metal advertising sign at courtside, hitting the elbow and forehead of his left arm. Muster returned to play, but did not win another game, as Becker reeled off five in a row to take the match.

Women's third seed Chris Evert, scheduled to play later against Arantxa Sanchez of Spain, said a nagging heel spur had improved enough so that she could play the third-round match, postponed a day because of the injury.

Friday's last matches on centre court and court No. 1 — the feature venues — were interrupted by rain and resumed Saturday as the day's second matches on those courts.

On centre court, third-seeded Mats Wilander was leading Slobodan Zinjov of Yugoslavia 6-2, 3-2. Over at court No. 1, Andre Agassi of the United States was ahead of Soviet Andrei Medvedev 7-5, 5-1 in a match of hard-hitting 18-year olds.

Another seed was eliminated from the women's field by one of the three teen-agers to advance. Nicole Pietrangeli, an 18-year-old from Australia, defeated seventh-seeded Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany 1-6, 6-4, 7-5.

Two other seeds struggled to victory. Yannick Noah, the men's eighth seed from France, needed four sets to calm a worried full house on centre court and overcome Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland 6-4, 6-4, 6-7, 6-3.

Earlier on the same court, women's 15th-seeded Sylvia Hanika of West Germany rallied to defeat Isabelle Demongeot of France, 3-6, 7-5, 6-4.

Other seeds had an easier time. Men's 15th-seeded Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina, and women's 10th-seeded Zina Garrison of the United States and 13th-seeded Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union all won in straight sets.

A rainstorm rolled through Paris in the evening, bringing an early end to play. Suspended matches included two involving seeded players, with No. 3 Mats Wilander of Sweden and No. 9 Andre Agassi of the United States both up by a set.

Edberg, the latest threat to Ivan Lendl's reign at the top of men's tennis, reached the third round in Paris for only the second time in five appearances and the first time since 1985.

He used his serve-and-volley

game, generally better suited to faster courts than red clay, to good effect in the first two sets but had problems closing out the match against Gunnarsson.

He held four match points in the 10th game, but Gunnarsson saved them all behind strong serves. Edberg wasted another match point in the 12th game, as Gunnarsson saved it with help from the umpire. The official came off his chair to inspect a ball mark and overrule a line judge's "out" call on the final point, sending the set to a tiebreaker.

Gunnarsson continued to serve well, blasting ace and building a 5-2 lead in the tiebreak. But Edberg charged back and won the final five points, wrapping up the victory when Gunnarsson netted a service return.

"Every time he needed a big point, he hit a big serve," Edberg, who meets Perez-Roldan next. "He must have hit five lines in a row."

Spectators were treated to some court showmanship, Swedish style. Gunnarsson delighted the fans by kicking the ball about like a soccer player after missed points, and Edberg returned one half-volley between his legs.

The match was played on court No. 11, a venue generally inhabited by players ranked much lower than second in the world. It was Edberg's second trip there this week and he wasn't happy.

"It is a really, really bad court. The bounces you get there are real bad," he said. "I don't deserve to be out there. I have played one match on court No. 1, but I would like to get at least one match on centre court."

Navratilova was on centre court and got a good workout against Paulus, who won a clay-court warmup tournament in Geneva a week ago and is ranked 41st.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 73 ♠ AQ872 ♦ 954 ♣ 654
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♠ 2 NT Pass
What action do you take?
- Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 6 ♠ A8752 ♦ AQ95 ♣ J108
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♠
What action do you take?
- Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ AK98 ♠ 7 ♠ Q1072 ♠ AQJ9
What is your opening bid?
- Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K6 ♠ 952 ♦ 1065 ♠ AJ853
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♠
What do you bid now?
- Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K95 ♠ AJ6 ♠ 93 ♠ AQJ72
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ AJ1054 ♠ Q987 ♠ 7 ♠ K94
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Some conditions from the past involving older persons will require special attention. Make sure you understand what others are trying to say before you disagree. Remain cheerful in the face of adversity.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Your intuition is apt to be way off these today, so don't rely on it when making decisions. Control your temper when speaking with your mate.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you allow some past prejudices to effect your decisions, you could lose out on a fine opportunity. Be sure to get all your work done today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Spend some time scheduling your activities for the coming week, and improve your efficiency. Don't give in to a demanding associate.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Postpone any discussions with your mate that are likely to cause arguments. If you go out, don't spend money foolishly.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Stay at home and restore your energy today, but don't argue with your family. Be more attentive and understanding to an older relative.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't let a fixed point of view keep you from learning from others. This is a fine evening to take your family out for some entertainment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't make any decisions concerning property repairs at this time. If you begin any new projects, make sure you have time to finish them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Recognize that a friend is trying to help you, and don't argue with this person. This evening will be a fine one if you don't overindulge.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If a project you have been working on is going nowhere, stop spinning your wheels and drop it. Be kind and considerate to your mate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Avoid a friend whose opinionated ideas will hold you back and cause you to miss opportunities. Help out a friend who is having problems.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You would be wise to stay at home today and avoid trouble. Rely more on yourself, and don't expect anyone to do your work for you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You can learn a great deal from others if you are less judgmental. If you go out with your mate tonight, be sure to drive very carefully.

THE Daily Crossword by Fred Toole

ACROSS

- That currency
- Seductive women
- Rage
- Norse god
- Arab prince
- Scare
- Endure
- Columbus' ship
- Decay
- Alphabet run
- Monastery
- Head
- Marital fever
- Three wise men
- Animal shelter
- Hull growth
- Inventor Howe
- Seed cover
- Thanks —
- Obstinate
- Beit
- Sesame
- Scrummage
- Br. county
- Marine mammals
- Bestie
- Before: pret.
- Baleyn
- Smart
- Sharpen
- Health resort
- Hi-tailie combo
- Airship
- Wearing
- Footwear
- Medicinal plant
- Ger. city
- Anger
- Repair
- Certain cargo
- Unabridged
- DOWN
- Gauche
- Weapon
- Man
- Treasure
- Island ship
- Explosive
- Ship
- Amo, ama, —
- Carte
- Dog or cat
- Sp. lady: abbr.
- Impudence
- of —
- Dress
- 22-tuple combo
- Chair
- cum laude
- Regrets
- Football bag
- Dominees
- Pretextuous
- "Endymion"
- toot
- "Dallas" name
- Ship's time signals
- Vacation vessel
- Longest river
- In Fr.
- Cigar ends
- Fr. historian
- Rail's shape
- Avail
- Scorch
- Sound
- West authors
- Forest man
- Frud
- Floor cover
- Blat
- Privy to
- Huge mass
- Herakle band
- Mouth or
- South
- Arab city
- 56 Rink org.
- 57 Stair
- 58 Theatrical sign

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DOFOL

NEKIF

LIPPUT

CEDITE

HINTS ARE OFTEN DROPPED BUT SELDOM THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

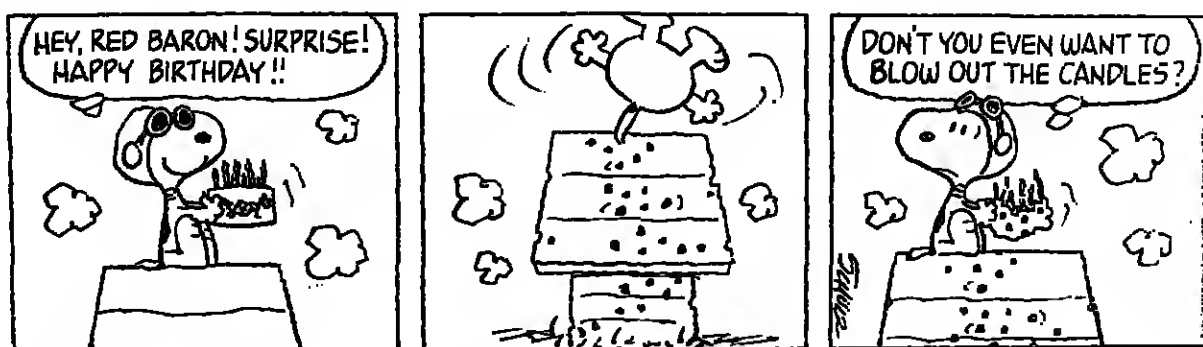
Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

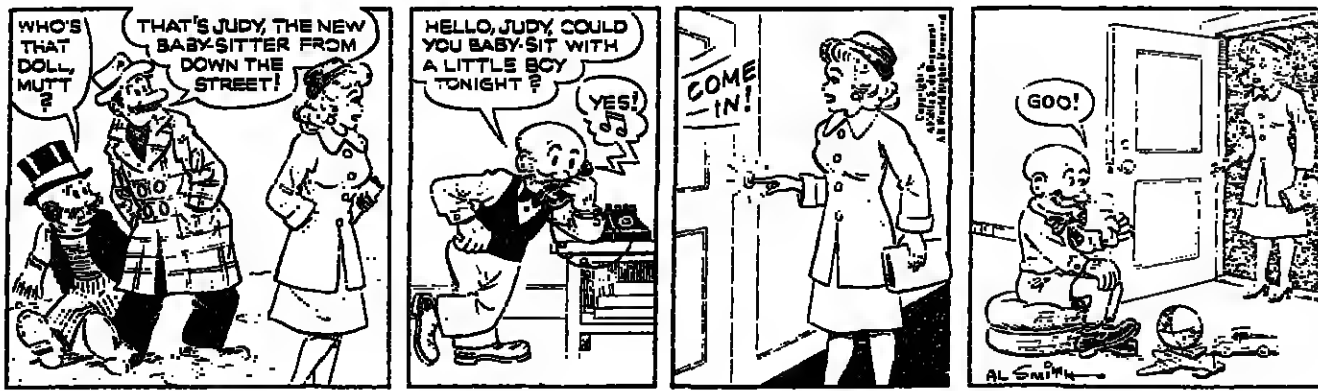
Jumbles: FRIAR MERCY WALNUT INVENT

Answer: That exquisite shake-up amounted to this—A TITLE WAVE

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Mauritius quits OAU summit after furor over Pretoria links

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Mauritius, protesting against criticism of its links with South Africa, Saturday stormed out of the closing session of an African summit which called for intensified armed struggle against apartheid and Pretoria's rule in Namibia.

"We came here to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), not to be insulted... I have no alternative but to walk out of this closing session," Foreign Minister Satcam Boolell told the few heads of state left in the Ethiopian capital.

A report by the OAU Liberation Committee cited Mauritius as one of three OAU member states collaborating with the white-ruled Pretoria government through trade and other ties. The others were in Seychelles and Equatorial Guinea.

Boolell said Mauritius had asked for the reference to be deleted and was making the protest because the conference had ignored its request. The accusation was "self-righteous and hypocritical," he said.

OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou described the walkout as deplorable but gave no explanation why the report did not

name other African states which have failed to cut ties with South Africa in protest at its apartheid policies.

Mauritius allows South African Airways to land at Plaisance airport on their way to and from the Far East. South African companies have invested in hotels in the Indian Ocean state and, like most countries in southern Africa, Mauritius buys large quantities of South African goods.

The new OAU chairman, President Moussa Traore of Mali, told a post-summit news conference that the Liberation Committee — the African body coordinating support for nationalist movements in southern Africa — had not condemned the three states but had merely expressed con-

cern at their South African links.

"If we close our eyes to such realities and truths, we would be colluding with apartheid," he added.

Resolutions passed by the 30 heads of state and government who attended the three-day meeting call for comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa and ask member states to support the three OAU-recognised liberation movements — the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress in South Africa and Namibia's South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

They deplored British and American use of the veto in the United Nations Security Council to thwart attempts to make sanctions against South Africa legally binding.

The conference invited member states to open talks with the frontline countries — the black states confronting Pretoria — on security assistance.

Waldheim: Joining EC will not violate neutrality

VIENNA (R) — President Kurt Waldheim said Friday that Austria should join the European Community (EC) despite Soviet claims that membership would violate the country's neutrality.

"I am of the opinion that this step is necessary, but of course our neutrality must be protected," Waldheim told a news conference in the western city of Bregenz.

Austria's government is studying a possible application to join the EC. Many politicians, industrialists and economists believe membership is vital to ensure unhindered access for Austrian

exports to the biggest European markets.

But a Soviet spokesman said May 17 that the EC was turning into an organisation with political and military orientations.

Soviet forces withdrew from Austria, along with U.S., British and French troops, after the four powers signed a 1955 treaty with Austria which ended the country's occupation.

Asked about the Soviet objections, Waldheim said: "I would not overstate that. I think it is right for this and other concerns to be taken up suitably calmly."

Ethiopia allows EEC to gauge relief after threat

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — Ethiopia will allow the European Economic Commission (EEC) to monitor drought relief operations in the war-torn north following an EEC threat to cut off food shipments, EEC delegate Benno Haffner said Saturday.

"We will have adequate right to visit and to monitor according to the circumstances in the region where they have martial law," he told reporters.

Ethiopia granted the permission following an EEC letter last week to the government's chief relief official, Berhanu Kembre, expressing "deep concern and regret" over the situation and threatening to cut off further food shipments.

The EEC is Ethiopia's biggest food donor, followed by the Un-

ited States and the Soviet Union. The government has requested emergency aid to help feed 7 million people threatened with starvation nationwide following severe crop failures.

Haffner said the letter stemmed from the government's failure to fulfill a contract stipulating a representative of the European Community will be able to visit regions where EEC food is distributed.

"If the contract can not be fulfilled, then we warn each other," he said. "Then we sit together and see what we can do."

Haffner met with Berhanu Friday night and said he had received assurances the contract would be fulfilled and that he would be allowed to visit the

Moscow, Kabul criticise Islamabad

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet and Afghan Foreign Ministers criticised Pakistan Friday for supporting the U.S.-backed Mujahadeen fighters, official TASS news agency reported.

The report said Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his Afghan counterpart, Abdul Wakil, met in Moscow to review arrangements for the Soviet troop withdrawal which began May 15.

"Pakistan virtually does not take effective measures for the elimination from its territory of the infrastructure of interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs," TASS quoted the envoys as stating.

The United States has been supplying the Mujahadeen with an estimated \$500 million annually in arms and military supplies channelled through Pakistan. The fighters, who have been fighting the eight-year Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, have made their headquarters in neighbouring Pakistan.

At a news conference earlier, Yevgey Primakov, head of the Soviet Institute of the World Economy and International Relations, accused the United States of violating the Geneva agreements by continuing to ship arms to the Mujahadeen.

"They are arming, quite openly, those who want to go on in their civil war," said Primakov.

In Washington, the State Department noted that the Soviets were handing over military supplies to the Kabul government.

"The turnover of large amounts of military supplies constitutes a continuation of military aid. The Soviets should take their military equipment out with them. We will watch Soviet actions carefully in this area and will follow symmetry in making our decisions," said a State Department statement.

Sandinistas, contras get closer to peace

MANAGUA (AP) — Rebel leaders agreed Friday to discuss a truce extension proposed by the leftist government, and one of the best-known rebel commanders turned himself in and accepted amnesty.

Felix Garcia Hernandez, known as Alfa Lima, told reporters Friday he had commanded more than 400 men in the Chontales region and had been in the rebel forces since the civil war began six years ago.

He said he met with representatives of the Nicaraguan army several times during the truce and decided to return because of his family and because he felt Nicaraguans should stop killing each other. He turned himself in Wednesday and the Sandinista government announced it Thursday night.

On Thursday, the rebel delegates declared they had come to Managua only to discuss their own plan, which sets deadlines for government introduction of reforms. The Sandinistas called the contra proposals "unrealistic," but agreed to put them on the table.

Government negotiators then offered a plan for electoral reforms and a cease-fire as a continuation of general agreements reached at Sapoa for a truce, amnesty, a government dialogue with the political opposition and eventual integration into the political life of the rebels and their leaders.

At the heart of the disagreement are the definition of democratisation and how to go about it.

Within five days of an agreement, the contras demand an end to the military draft, freedom to supply their forces in the field and total press freedom, including establishment of private radio and television stations.

Within two months, they want measures to guarantee political pluralism, separation of state powers, curtailment of the powers of the Sandinista Party, guarantees of the right to strike and reforms in the judiciary and the electoral system.

The government has offered to discuss electoral reforms, and announced an amnesty programme and a plan for municipal elections.

"We have made some important progress," said Alfredo Cesar, the head of the contra delegation.

Earlier, Cesar told newspaper reporters he believed there was a 25 per cent chance of agreeing on an indefinite cease-fire at the talks.

Although they agreed to discuss extending the cease-fire, which is scheduled to end May 30, the rebels, known as contras, still insist on an agreement that includes a firm schedule of democratic reforms.

Major Ricardo Wheelock, a government negotiator, said Friday: "We think we might have some sort of agreement (on a permanent cease-fire) before the end of the talks tomorrow at noon. We feel we will make them see the light. The fundamental thing is that Sapoa must go on."

Sapoa, a town on the Costa Rican border, was where the March 23 peace agreement was signed by the Sandinista government and the U.S.-supported rebels, known as contras.

President Daniel Ortega's government feels a permanent cease-fire is a necessary first step toward peace. The contras want political reforms that would enlarge the opposition's role in a more pluralistic and democratic

Peking cool to Hanoi's withdrawal announcement

BEIJING (AP) — China Saturday dismissed as "deceptive talk" Vietnam's promise to withdraw 50,000 of its troops from Kampuchea this year and put the rest under the command of the Vietnamese-installed Kampuchean government.

"Despite Vietnam's repeated announcement of partial troop withdrawal from Kampuchea (Cambodia), up to now there has been no sign of reduction of Vietnamese aggressor troops," the Chinese Foreign Ministry said. "One may suspect whether the same old trick is being played once again."

The Foreign Ministry statement came two days after the Communist Vietnamese government announced the withdrawal plan. Vietnam invaded Kampuchea in 1978 and since has battled Chinese-backed guerrillas seeking to oust the Vietnamese.

Vietnam claims it has made annual partial troop withdrawals since 1982. But the United States says the largest removal last November of 20,000 troops was the only genuine pullout, and the rest were rotations.

The United States estimates 120,000 to 125,000 Vietnamese troops still are in Kampuchea.

Hanoi said it will pull out 50,000 soldiers between June and December and put the remaining troops under the existing Kampuchean government as part of a plan to pull out completely by 1990.

China, a supporter of Kampuchea's Khmer Rouge Regime that Vietnam ousted in 1978, now supports a three-party resistance coalition headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who was ousted as ruler of Kampuchea in a 1970 military coup.

The coalition, made up of three guerrilla groups including the Khmer Rouge, is recognised by the United Nations as the legitimate government of Kampuchea and receives arms and financial support from China.

China reiterated Saturday that the only way to resolve the Kampuchean question is for Vietnam to completely withdraw its troops and take part in negotiations to establish an independent Kampuchean government. Vietnam has said that it is an outsider and has no place in negotiations on Kampuchea.

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\$30 million U.S. aid to Philippines

MANILA (R) — Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos said Saturday the United States had pledged about \$30 million of military aid to the Philippines to help fight Communist insurgents.

He said the assistance included military equipment and support for the manufacture of radios, uniforms and combat boots.

Ramos talked to reporters on his return from a 16-day visit to the United States which included talks with American officials on security relations between the two countries.

He said the assistance was not intended to influence the long-running talks between U.S. and Philippine officials on the future of American bases in the country.

"There was no conscious pressure that I detected in regard to the ongoing military bases review. I think it is well understood over there that the talks are taking place at another level," he said.

The assistance was part from the \$180 million the Philippines receives yearly as compensation under an agreement which allows the operation of U.S. military bases in the country.



Harare issues ultimatum to rebels

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi Friday gave anti-government rebels a final warning to surrender under an amnesty which ends May 31.

The national news agency Ziara, controlled by the state-owned Mass Media Trust, quoted Mahachi saying the government will not extend the amnesty beyond the deadline at midnight Tuesday.

Mahachi urged dissidents still at large in the western province of Matabeleland to "rush to the nearest police station" or the authorities during the last four days of the amnesty announced on April 19 by President Robert Mugabe.

"My appeal should be taken very seriously," Mahachi said. "My appeal goes even further, to the relatives who must tell their kith and kin to surrender."

He said 35 rebels laid down their arms since the amnesty was declared.

The amnesty followed a unity accord signed by Mugabe and former opposition leader Joshua Nkomo aimed at merging Zimbabwe's two main political parties.

It promised pardons for about 100 rebels estimated by intelligence sources to be operating in Matabeleland, Nkomo's traditional tribal stronghold, and exiled followers of the ex-opposition leader who was appointed a senior minister in Mugabe's government in January.

Mahachi said rebels who failed to give themselves up would be hunted by government troops.

"We are not going to be merciful," he said.

The unity pact and the amnesty left remaining rebels without support in the bush and Mahachi said government troops expected it would be easier to track them down.

Several of the rebels have said they were members of Nkomo's guerrilla army in the seven year war that led to Zimbabwe's independence in 1980.

They said they returned to the bush because they were dissatisfied with the role Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union (Patriotic Front) party had been given in governing the country.

Nkomo denied links with the rebels.



Cheque-cashing with a view

FORT LAUDERDALE (AP) — Arnold Van wants customers to remember his cheque cashing service as the one that's so good it offers the shirt off his back. Well, actually off his back, but the backs of some of his women clerks. Van is a pioneer of topless cheque cashing, following in the tradition of Broward County's famous topless doughnut shop.

Fort Lauderdale is located in Broward county. "With all the competition we needed something unique," said Van, director of operations for Tops "Check" Cashing. "What could be more unique than having topless girls?"

For the regular cheque-cashing fee of up to 10 per cent of the cheque's value, customers can talk to two topless hostesses while waiting for their cash. The women also sell beer, cigarettes, soft drinks and snacks. The cheque-cashing office, which began the topless service Monday, doesn't plan to put up a sign announcing it at the shopping centre where the office is located, but Van said he plans to advertise. "I think it's disgusting," said Eleanor Kasch, manager of a sandwich shop nearby. "You have many young children in the neighbourhood."

Butterfly smuggler captured

BEIJING (AP) — A Japanese butterfly salesman was caught trying to smuggle more than 800 butterfly specimens out of China, an official report said Saturday.

The salesman was fined 3,115 yuan (\$839) and allowed to leave China — without the butterflies — on April 30, according to the official Xinhua News Agency.

The news agency, quoted the People's Public Security News, said Hiroyuki Wakahara was detained April 19 in southwest China's Yunnan province, where many rare butterflies are found. It said he was carrying 816 specimens. Foreigners are not allowed to purchase or catch any Chinese plants or animals without permission, the report said.

Sleepwalking killer acquitted

TORONTO (R) — A man who said he was sleepwalking when he killed his mother-in-law by hitting her with an iron bar and stabbing her repeatedly after driving 25 kilometres to her house has been acquitted of murder by a jury.

An Ontario supreme court jury deliberated for nine hours before finding Kenneth Parks, of nearby Pickering, Ontario, not guilty Thursday. Parks, 24, was charged with second-degree murder in the beating and stabbing death of Barbara Woods, 42, at her Toronto home last summer.

Parks is still charged with the attempted murder of his father-in-law, Denis, who was choked and stabbed. Defence lawyer Marilyn Edwards said that on the night of the killing, Parks "plunged into a deep, deep sleep. His next memory is seeing his mother-in-law's face."

When Parks regained consciousness, she said, blood dripping from his severely cut hands, he drove to a nearby police station and told officers: "My God, I've just killed two people."

Former Miss America arrested for shoplifting

WILLIAMSPORT (AP) — Bess Myerson, former Miss America and New York cultural affairs commissioner, was arrested Friday and charged with trying to shoplift \$44 in merchandise from a department store. Myerson appeared before District Justice John M. McDermott and was released on \$150 cash bail.

The 63-year-old New York City resident, already facing federal fraud and bribery-related charges, contested south Williamsport police allegations that she tried to leave Hill Department Store with six bottles of nail polish, five pairs of earrings, shoes and flashlight batteries in her purse and shopping bag.

"I was leaving the store to lock my car and come back and pay for the merchandise," she told the magistrate. She said she would pay her fine and costs, "under protest" through the mail, if court documents affirm her contention that this is her first offence. The maximum penalty, according to the court, would be a \$300 fine. "If true, it's extraordinarily sad that this case has occurred," New York City Mayor Edward I. Koch said in the charge. Myerson was his campaign manager in 1977 when Koch was first elected mayor.

Thatcher, Kinnock use Bible in political battle

By Peter Gregson

LONDON — Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Labour opposition leader Neil Kinnock are quoting liberally from the Bible in a "holier than thou" battle to show the superior morality of their own brands of politics.

Clashes this month between Britain's top two politicians have deepened their mutual animosity, and stirred one debate on the morality of the government's social policies and another one on the propriety of citing Holy Scriptures for party political advantage.

In a series of speeches and interviews, Thatcher bared her religious convictions and moral values more fully than at any time since she became prime minister nine years ago.

She sparked particular protest with an address to the general assembly of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh Saturday, quoting the Old and New Testaments, the Ten Commandments and several hymns to spell out the spiritual beliefs which underpin her political philosophy.

"It is not the creation of wealth that is wrong but love of money for its own sake," she said in one of several remarks that were instantly dubbed the "gospel" according to Thatcher.

Citing Saint Paul's Epistle to



Margaret Thatcher

the Thessalonians, she added: "If a man will not work he shall not eat."

Kinnock blasted the speech as "selective interpretation of the Bible" and a less than glorious defence of "a society in which the poor get poorer and the rich get richer."

On Tuesday he asked Thatcher to parliament which Biblical passage had inspired her to cut child benefits and stop free school meals: "Could it have been Matthew 27:24: 'And Pilate took water and washed his hands'?"

Amid uproar, she furiously accused Kinnock of "debasing everything I believe in."

She went on to cite her own self-denial by not drawing her full salary as prime minister. Labour members of parliament kept up the barrage in



Neil Kinnock

prime minister's question time Thursday, citing Biblical references and accusing Thatcher of a "nauseating pretence at moral concern" while attempting to rewrite the Bible and the Koran.

She dismissed the taunts as lacking the courtesy and respect that was "a mark of Christian manners."

Thatcher had stepped up the drive to assert the moral supremacy of her government with an address to women members of the ruling conservative party Wednesday.

Denying that her policies were the "creed of greed," she asserted that the traditional values of British life were: "conservative values of self-reliance, personal responsibility, good neighbourliness and generosity towards others."

The prime minister quoted Methodist Church founder John Wesley as saying: "gain all you can, save all you can, give all you can."

But her views have enraged a number of churchmen as well as opposition politicians, who charge that the government's free market, self-help policies have created a selfish and unhappy society becoming increasingly divided between rich and poor, north and south, young and old.

Last month, Anglican Bishop Durham David Jenkins denounced the government's welfare policies as "wicked."

Several Scottish clerics objected to Thatcher being allowed to speak at their Edinburgh assembly. One objector, the Reverend Paraic Reamonn, said afterwards: "What this government has been doing to the country and particularly to the poor since 1979 makes the speech a disgraceful travesty of the Gospel."

Political forays into theology are rare in Britain and the row generated a flood of letters to newspapers and a spate of editorials.

The Times said Thatcher was entitled "to defend the moral basis of her policies in the light of her personal religious convictions," but the pro-government Today called for an end to the Bible-quoting under the headline: "Keep God out of it."

